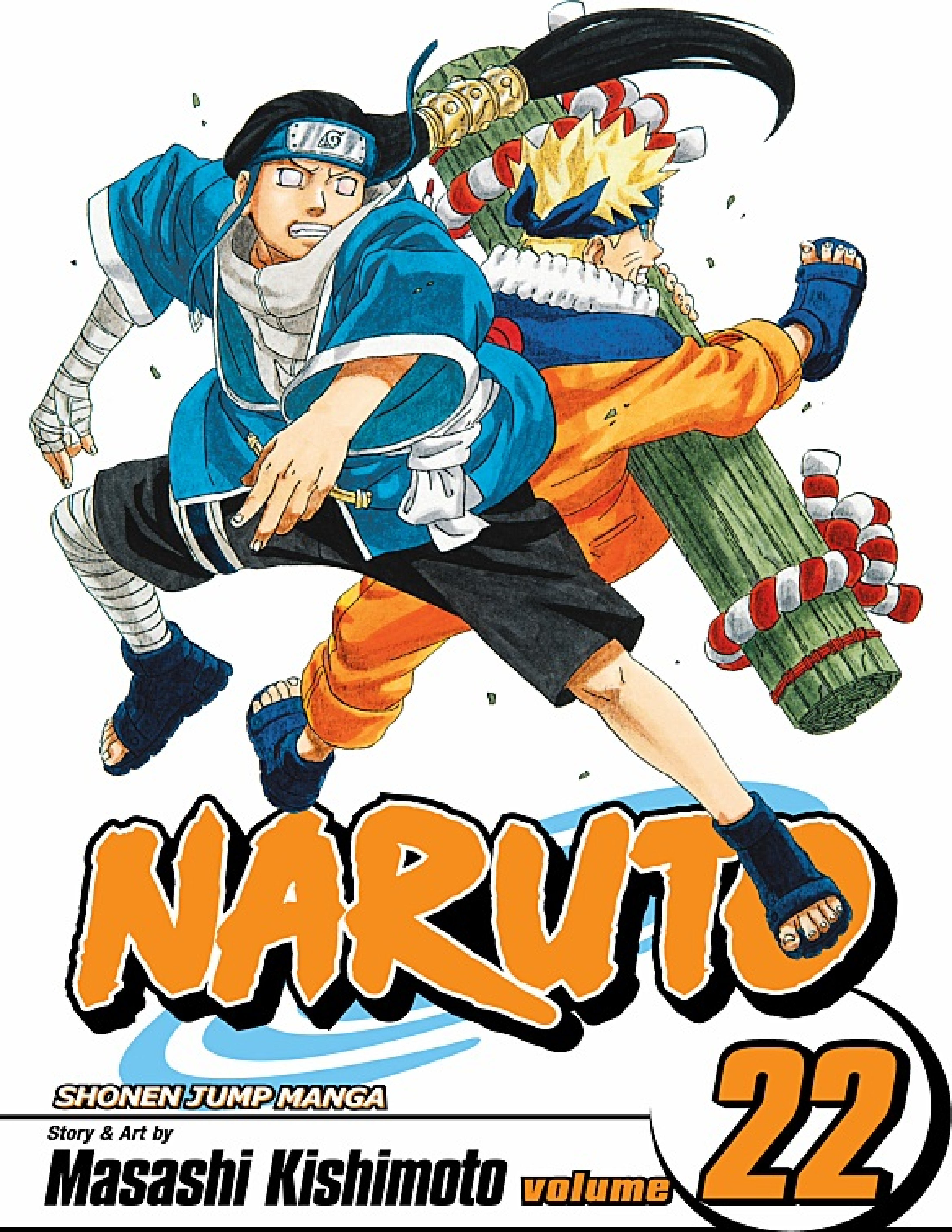
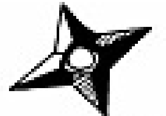

NARUTO
SHONEN JUMP MANGA
Story & Art by
Masashi Kishimoto
volume
22





岸本斉史

Oh man, it's spring! I always get sleepy in spring... I'm just sleepy... so slee... ...zzz.

—Masashi Kishimoto, 2004

Author/artist Masashi Kishimoto was born in 1974 in rural Okayama Prefecture, Japan. After spending time in art college, he won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists with his manga **Karakuri** (Mechanism). Kishimoto decided to base his next story on traditional Japanese culture. His first version of **Naruto**, drawn in 1997, was a one-shot story about fox spirits; his final version, which debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1999, quickly became the most popular ninja manga in Japan.

NARUTO VOL. 22
The SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY MASASHI KISHIMOTO

Translation & English Adaptation/Mari Morimoto
Touch-up Art & Lettering/James Gaubatz
Design/Yvonne Cai
Editor/Joel Enos

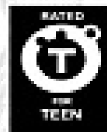
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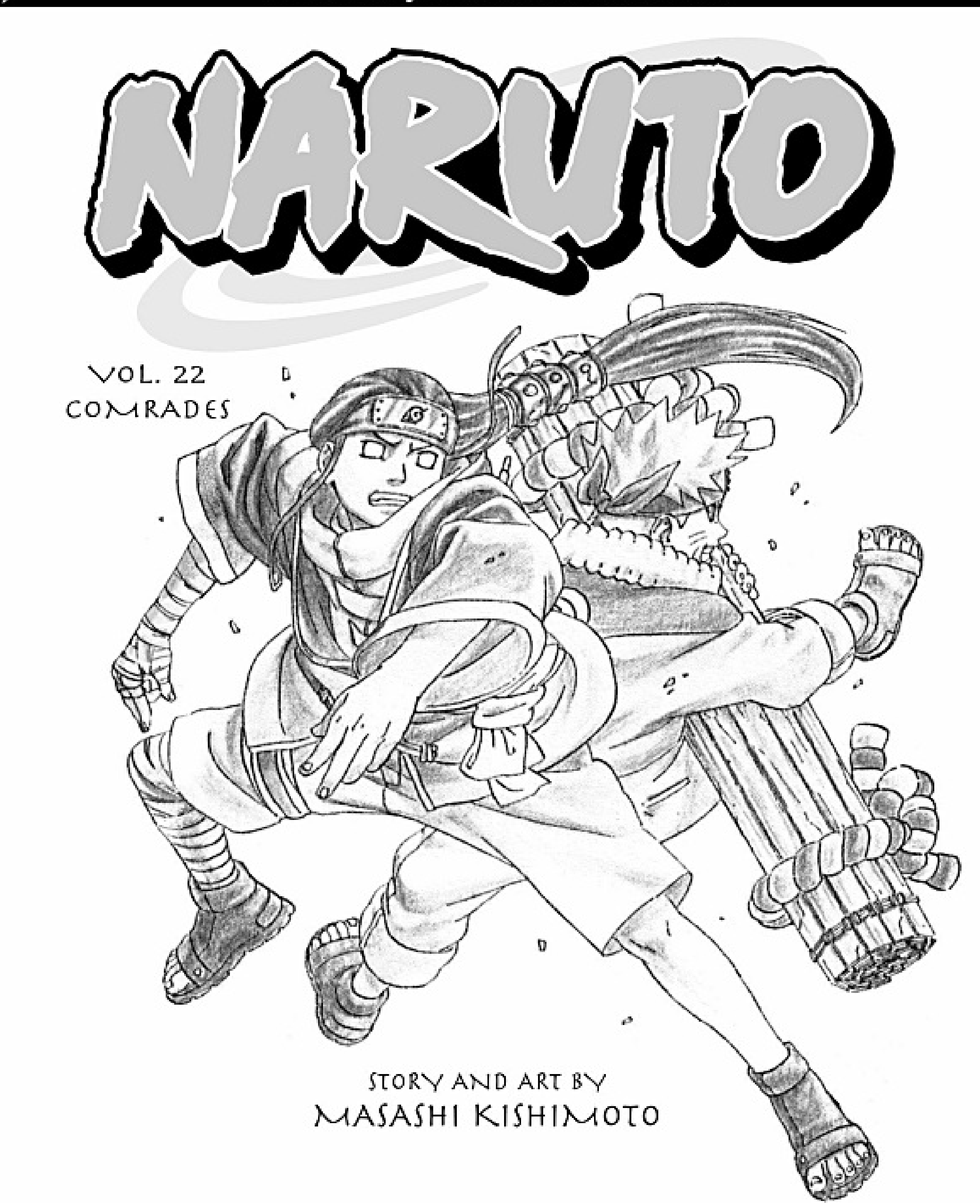
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SHONEN JUMP MANGA EDITION













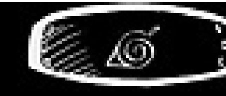
The Story So Far…

Twelve years ago, a destructive nine-tailed fox spirit attacked the ninja village of Konohagakure. The Hokage, or village champion, defeated the fox by sealing its soul into the body of a baby boy. Now that boy, Uzumaki Naruto, has grown up to become a ninja-in-training, learning the art of ninjutsu with his teammates Sakura and Sasuke. During the Second Chûnin Exam, Naruto and the others were attacked by Orochimaru, who left a curse mark on Sasuke and vanished…

Naruto and Sasuke proceeded to the Chûnin Exam Finals, but in the middle of the Sasuke vs. Gaara battle, Orochimaru and company launch *Operation Destroy Konoha*, which was stopped when the Third Hokage sacrificed his own life.

Sasuke, healed by Tsunade, who has become the Fifth Hokage, leaves Konoha Village with the Sound Ninja Four… The quintet of Shikamaru, Naruto, Choji, Kiba, and Neji hastily set out after them…!


CHARACTERS
Sasuke
サスケ
Naruto
ナルト
Sakura
サクラ
Shikamaru
奈良シカマル
Kiba &
Akamaru
犬塚キバ&赤丸
Choji
秋道チョウジ
Neji
日向ネジ
The Sound Ninja Four
音の四人衆
Sakon
左近
Jirobo
次郎坊
Tayuya
多由也
Kidomaru
鬼童丸

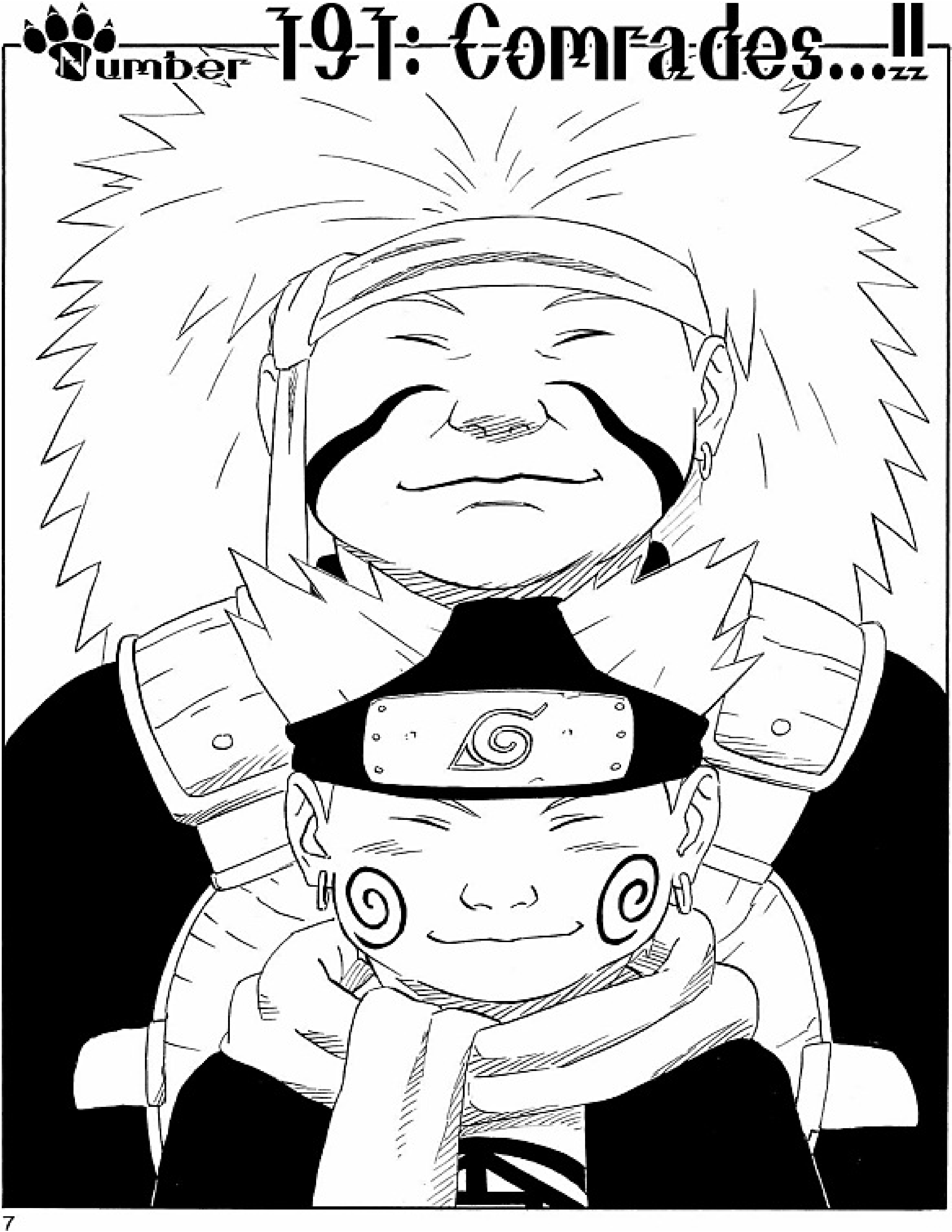


NARUTO

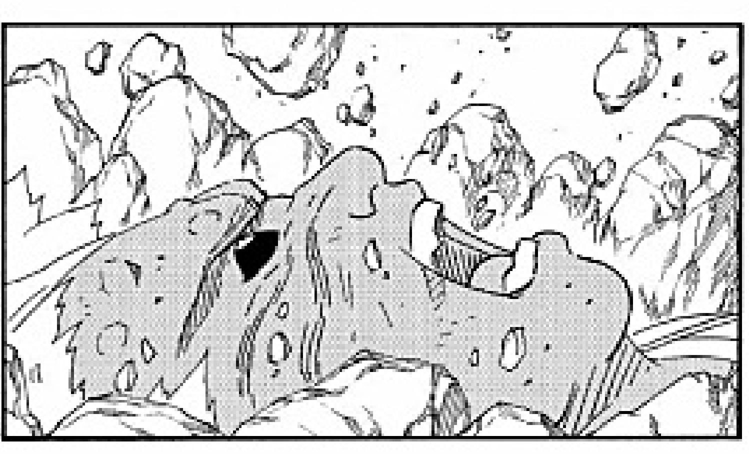
VOL. 22
COMRADES

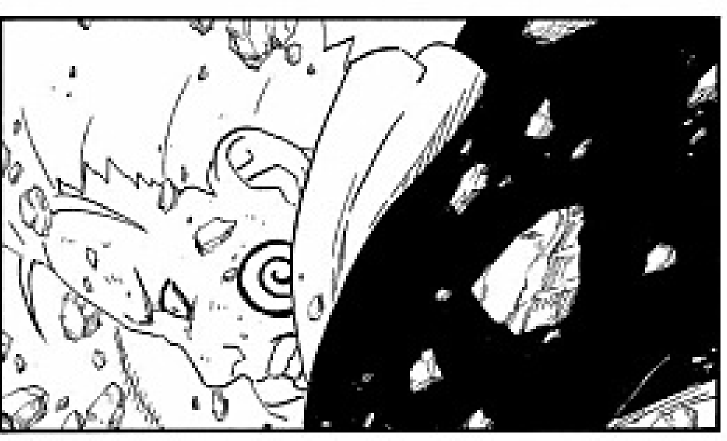
CONTENTS




Number 191: Comrades...!!

SLAM








READ THIS WAY

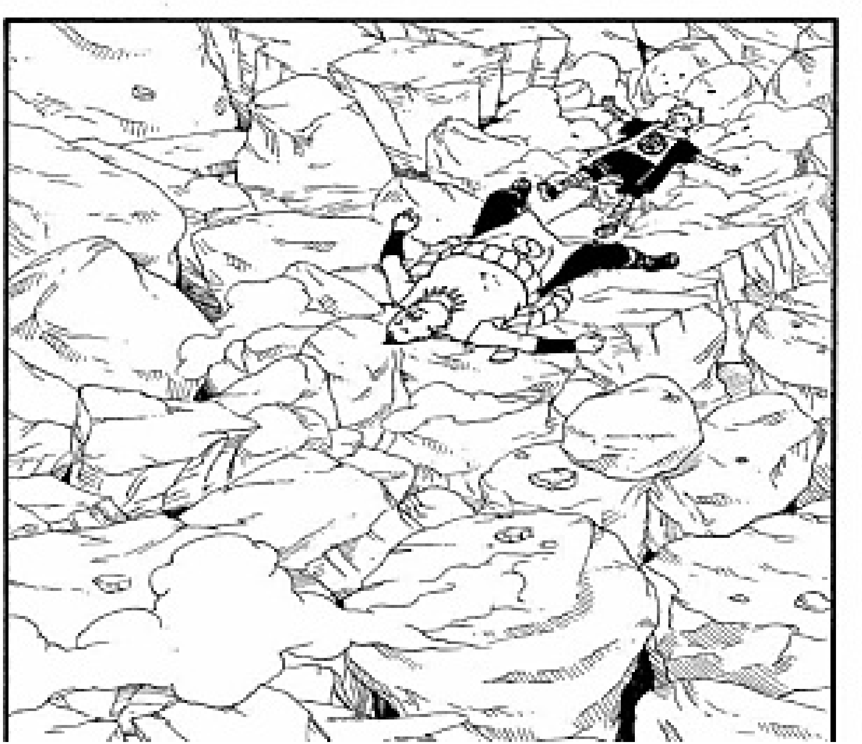

FSST...


WHOOOOOSH...

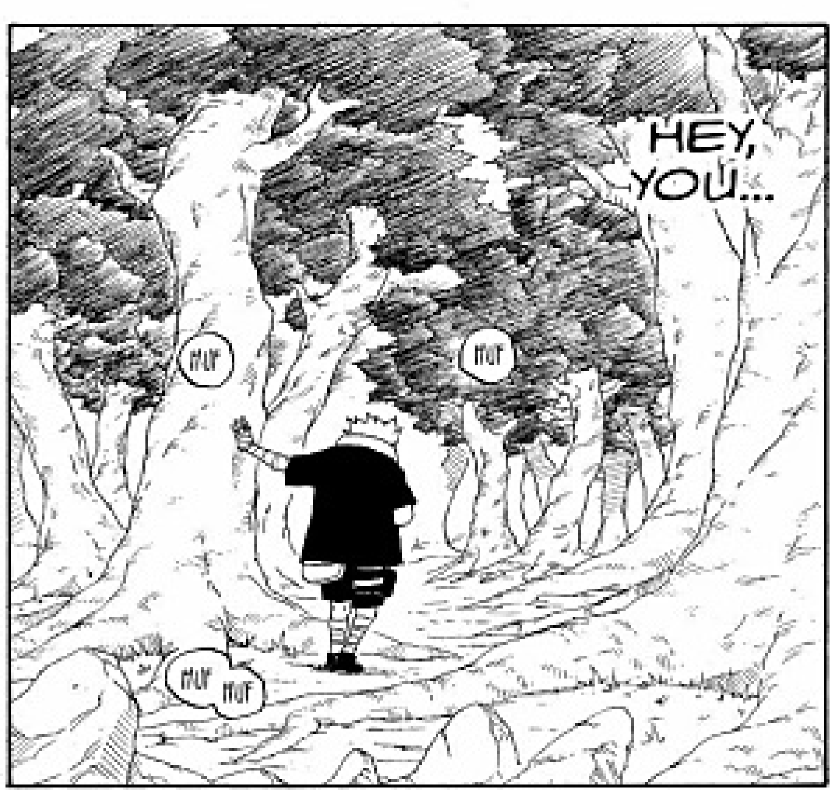

SHW...

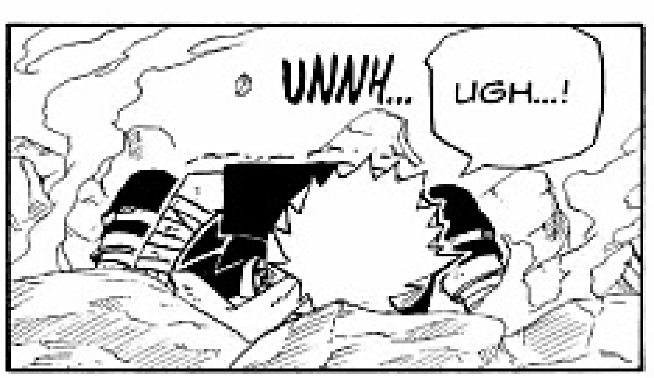

HUF
HUF
UNGH...

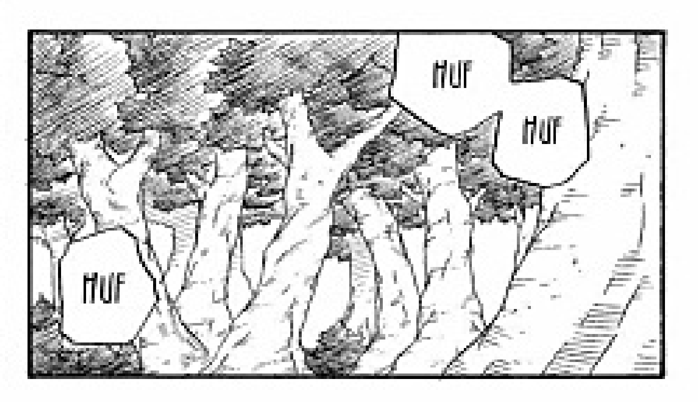

THUMP

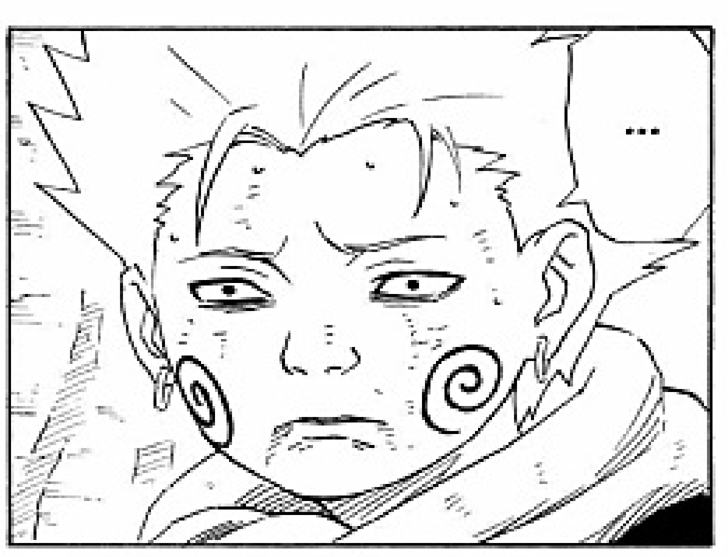



HUF
HUF
I WON...
I DID IT... I ACTUALLY WON!
HUF


HEY, YOU...
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF

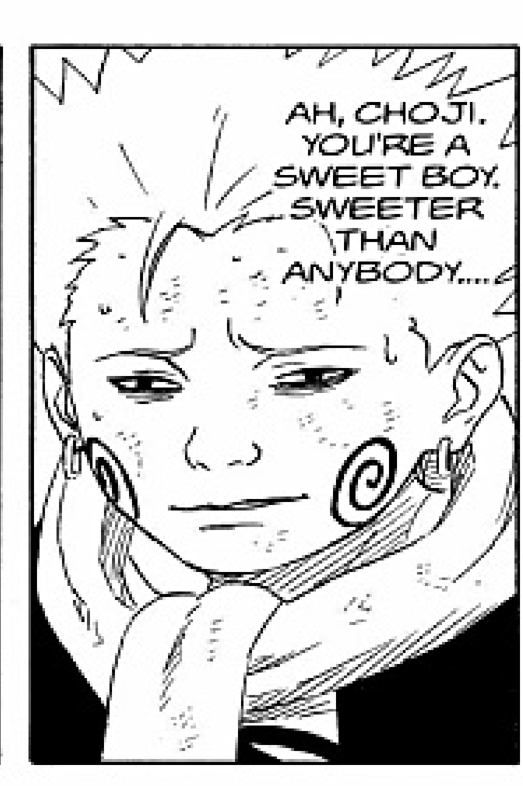

UNNH...
UGH...!


HUF
HUF
HUF

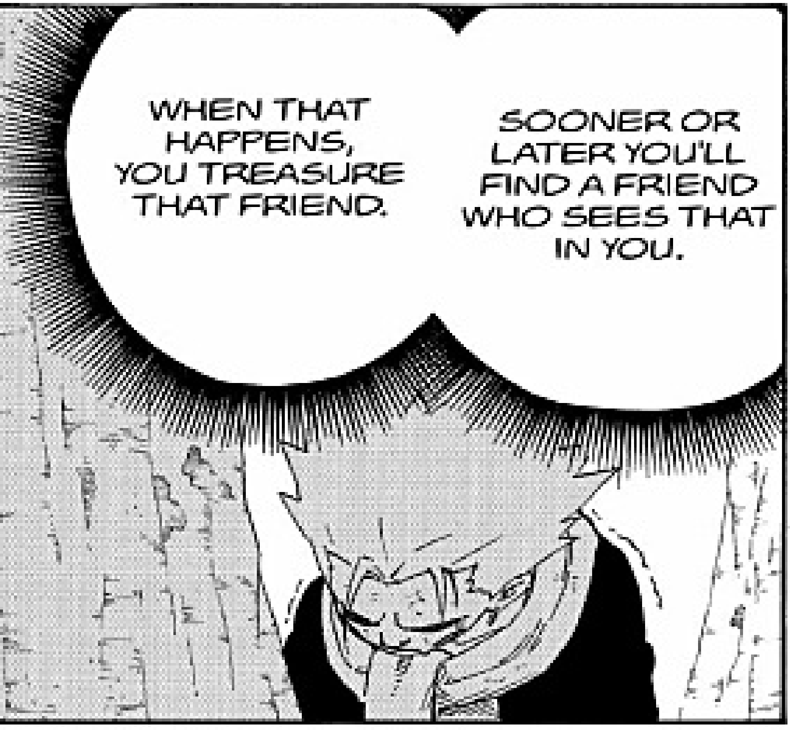

...


HUF
...!
HUF


READ
THIS
WAY

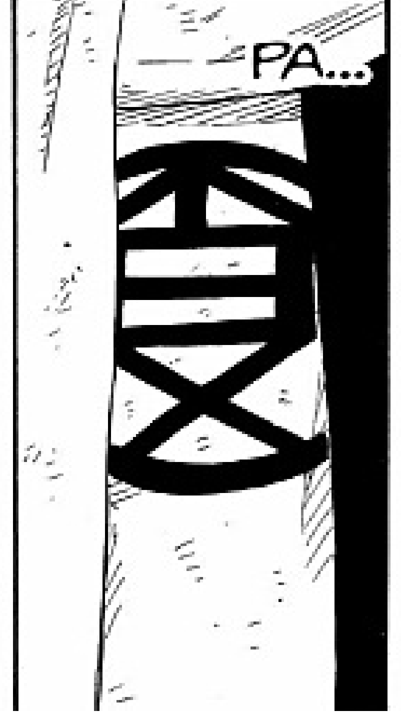

AH, CHOJI. YOU'RE A SWEET BOY. SWEETER THAN ANYBODY....

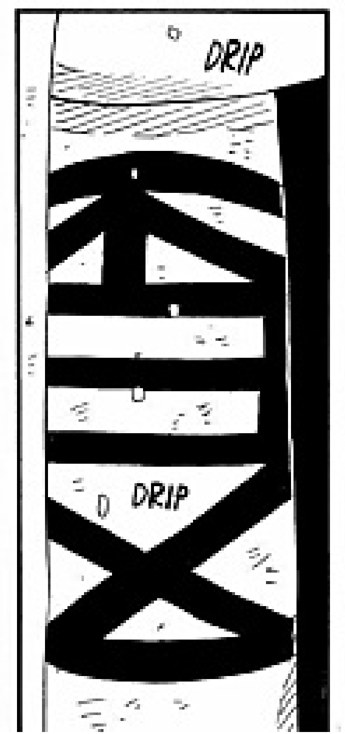

SNIFF.

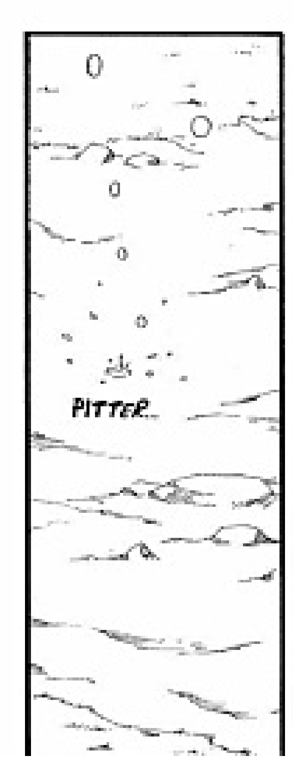

SOONER OR LATER YOU'LL FIND A FRIEND WHO SEES THAT IN YOU.
WHEN THAT HAPPENS, YOU TREASURE THAT FRIEND.


BECOME COMRADES, AND HAVE FAITH IN EACH OTHER.


...

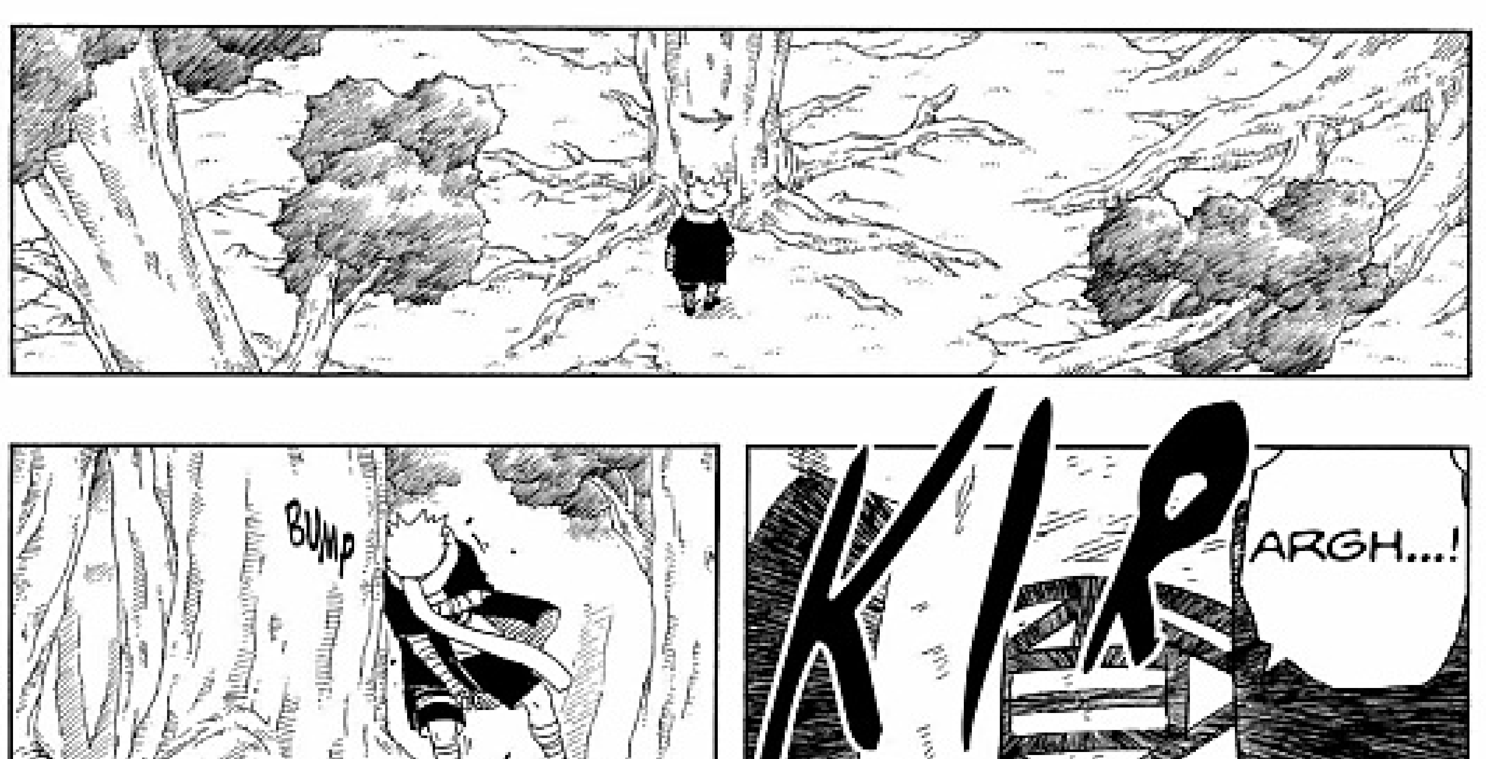

PA...

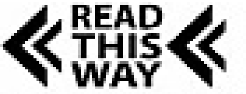

DRIP
DRIP


PITTER...

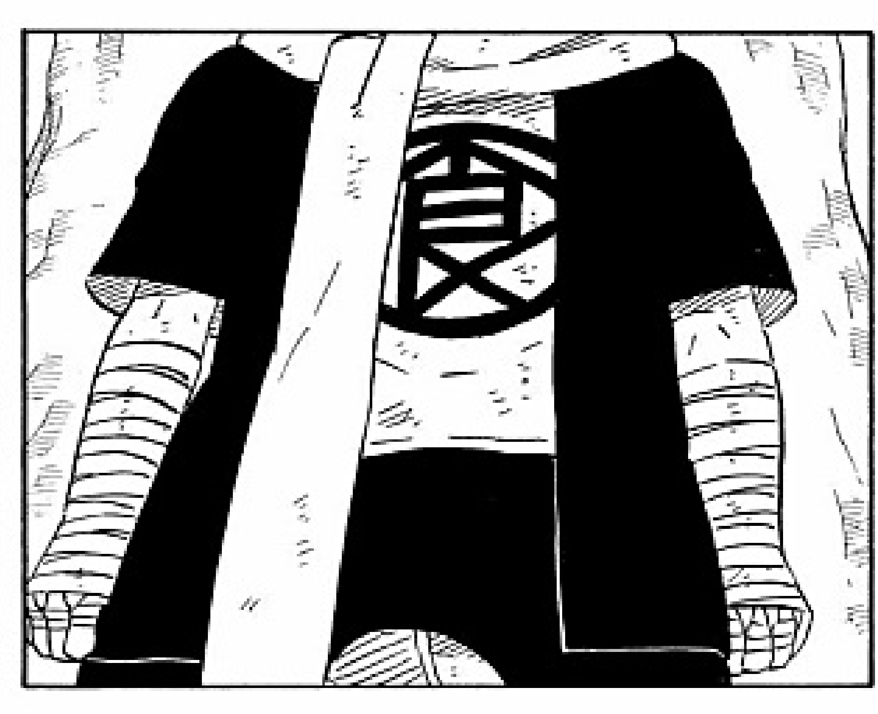
...I'VE GOT...

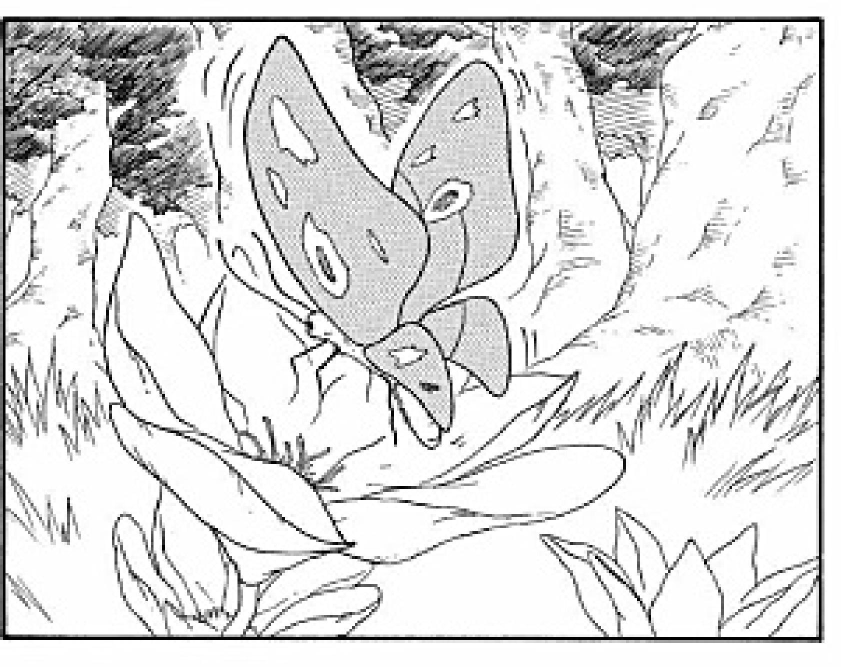
...LOTS OF COMRADES NOW...




READ
THIS
WAY

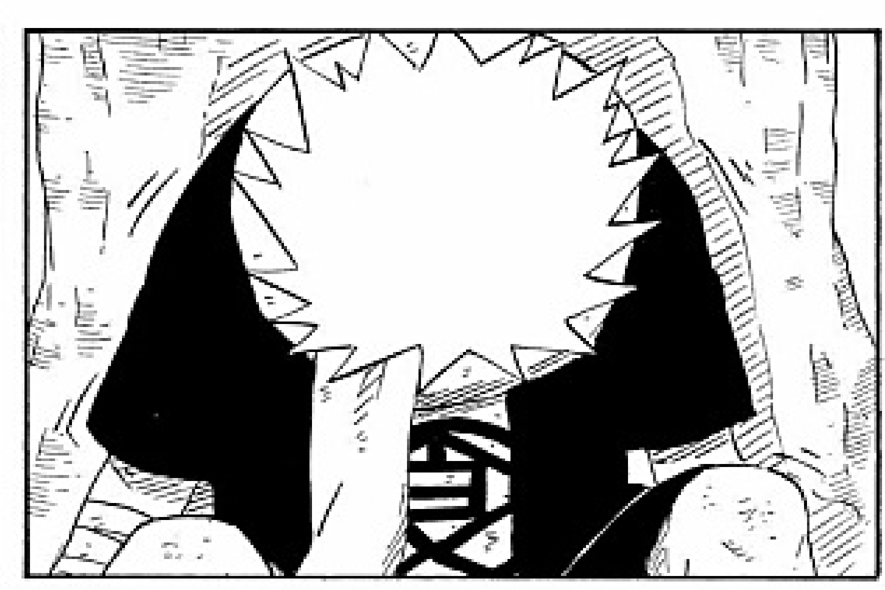


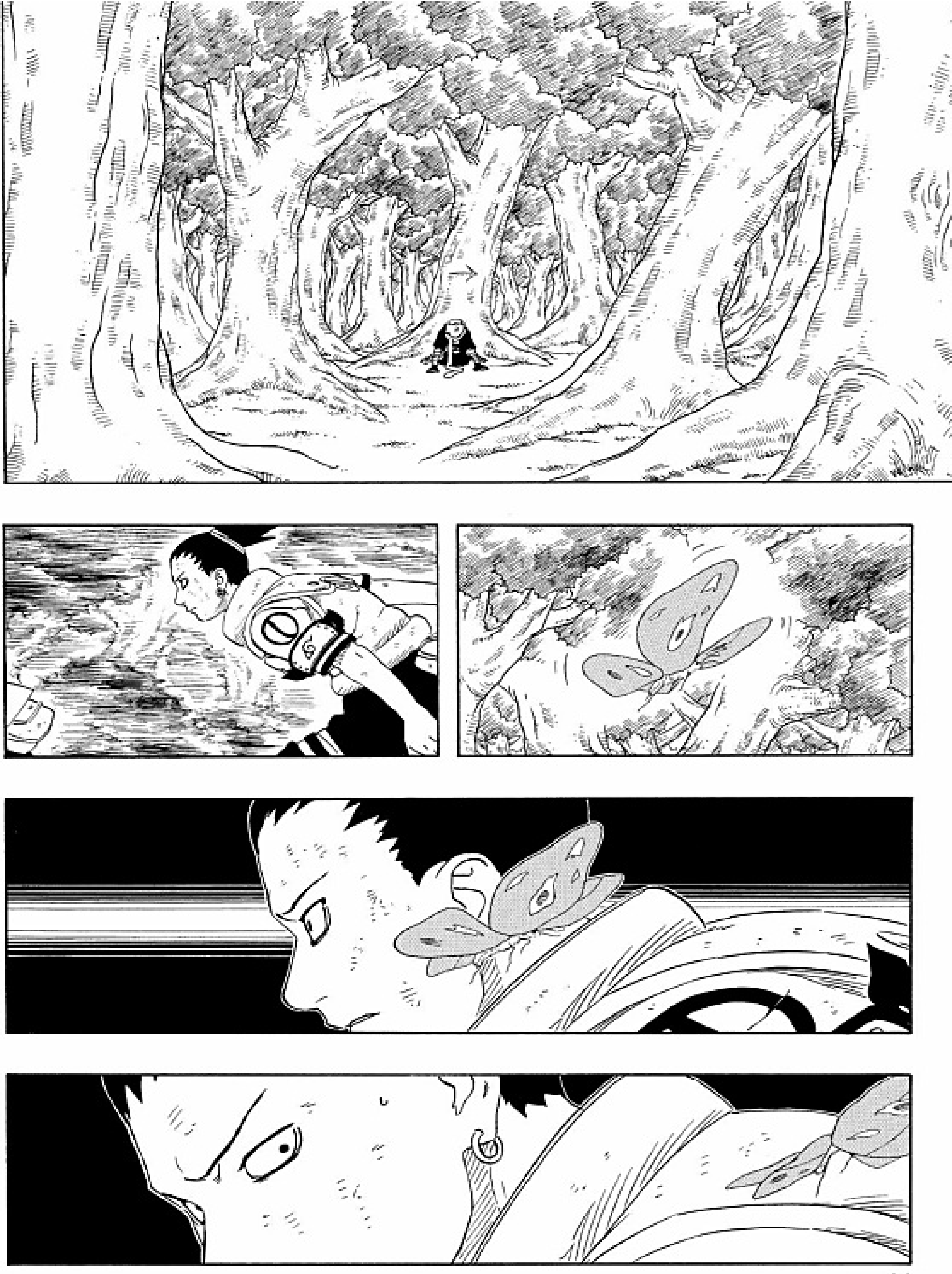












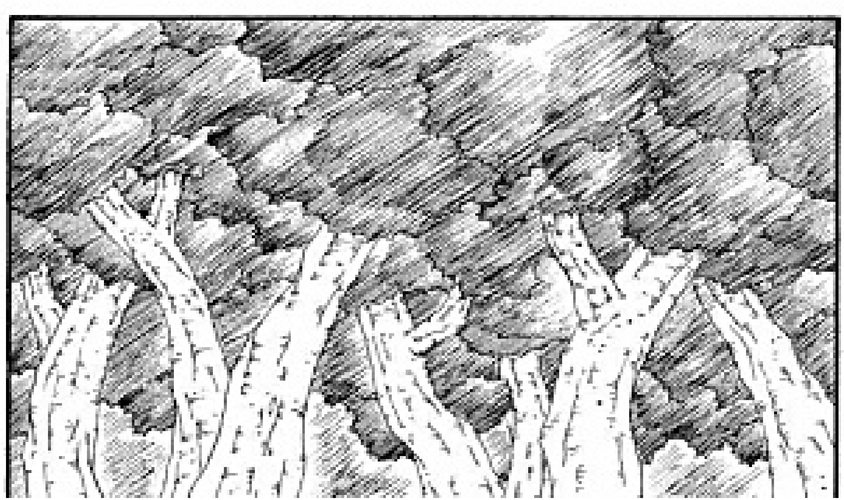


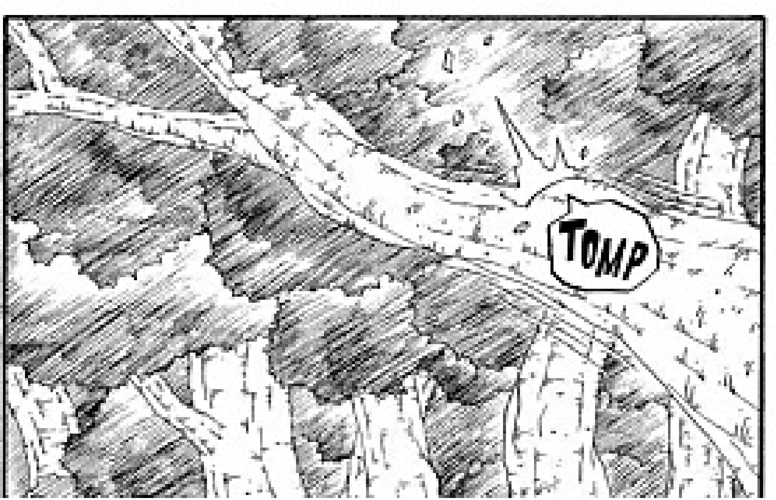






NOTHING...







WHOOSH



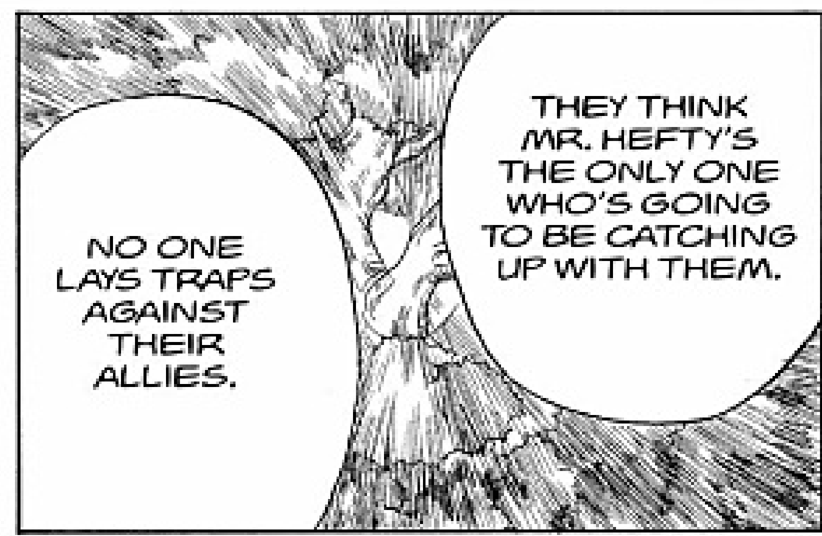
WE'RE CLOSE!
SNIFF SNIFF
SNIFF



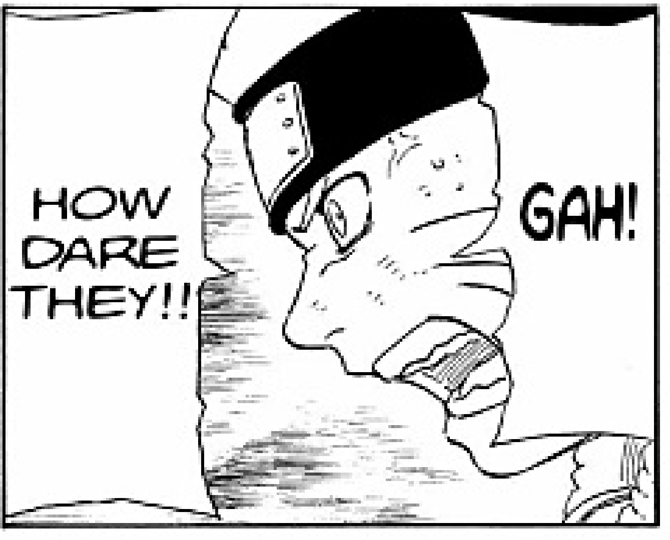
...THAT'S ODD.
THEY HAVEN'T LAID A SINGLE TRAP DOWN SINCE THEN...
SHIKA-MARU... WHAT DO YOU THINK'S GOING ON?



THEY'VE UNDER-ESTIMATED US!



THEY THINK MR. HEFTY'S THE ONLY ONE WHO'S GOING TO BE CATCHING UP WITH THEM.
NO ONE LAYS TRAPS AGAINST THEIR ALLIES.



GAH!
HOW DARE THEY!!







VOOSH
WHOOSH

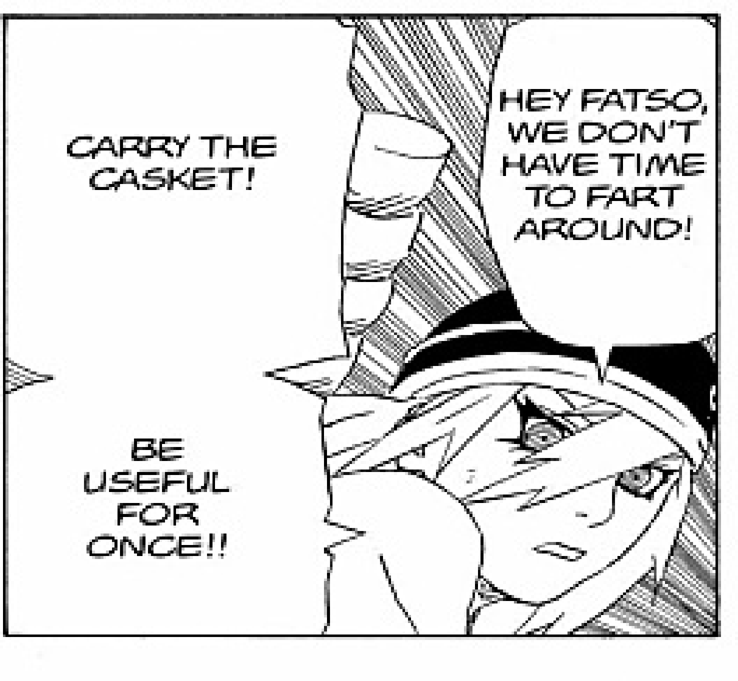




WHOOSH


WHAT TOOK SO LONG, MAN?


FWOOSH
FWOOSH
SORRY ...
I WAS DRAINING THEM LOSERS' CHAKRA.


HEY FATSO, WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO FART AROUND!
CARRY THE CASKET!
BE USEFUL FOR ONCE!!


OK...


...
...?


READ THIS WAY

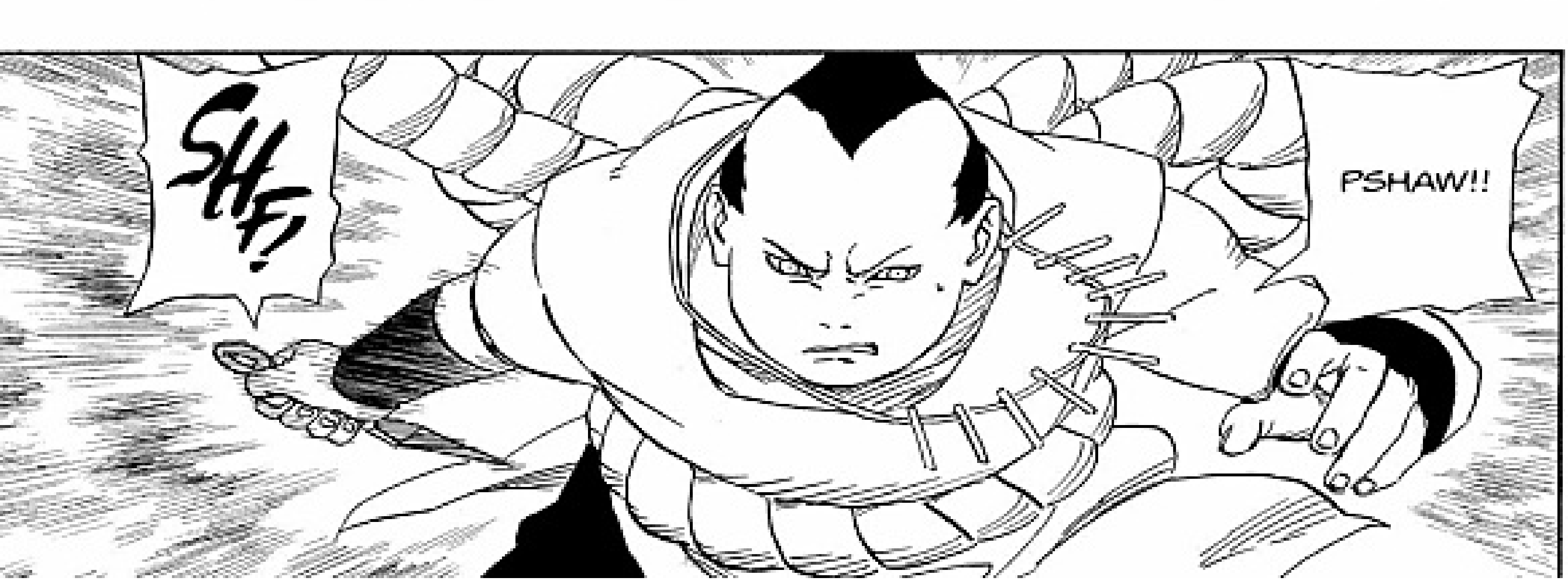

...


JIROBO... WHAT'S WRONG...
...FEELING ILL?

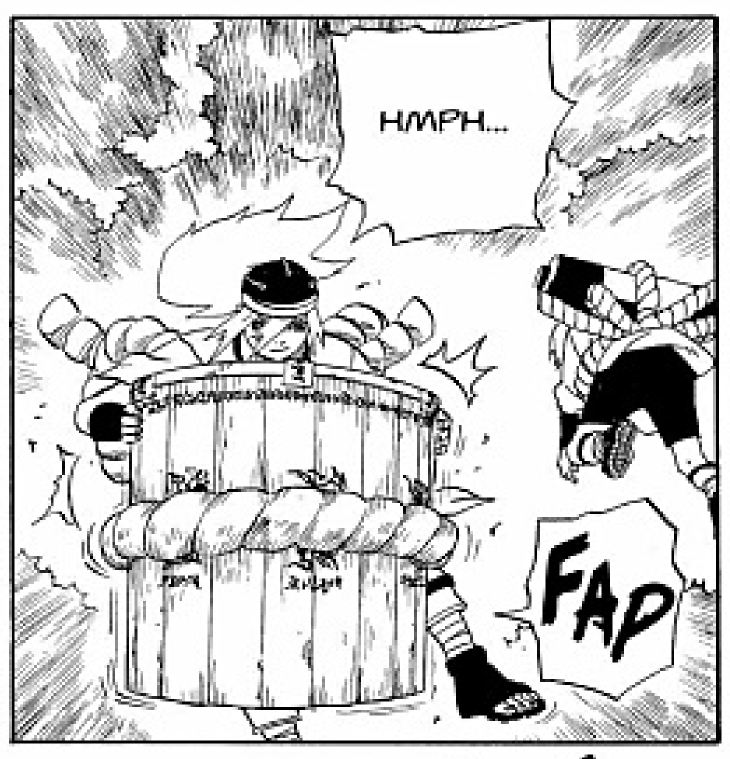

...WHADDYA MEAN?


...


MEANS I AIN'T HANDING OVER THE CASKET TO YOU!
WHIRL
'CUZ YOU AIN'T JIROBO!


PSHAW!!
SHF!


MY TURN, THIS TIME!
URGH
SAKON, TAYUYA, YOU GO ON AHEAD!


HMPH...
FAP


WHAPP


PUFF
JIROBO'S ALWAYS SCOLDIN' TAYUYA ABOUT HER LANGUAGE.


BOOF
I SEE...


SPOO
NINJA ART: KUMO-SHIBARI! SPIDER WEB NET!!
!!
SLAM
UGH!


SWISH
KONK
KONK



!!
TAK
C'MON!
PFFT


WHOA!
!!
NOW, KIBA! AKA-MARU!
HE CAN'T DODGE YOU MIDAIR!!
UGH!
BOING
TUMP
TUMP

NINJA ART: KUMO-SOKAI! SPIRAL WEB!!

!!

GATSUUGA! FANG OVER FANG!!

FSSSH

POP

SHEESH, WHAT'S FATSO UP TO?!
GAH!!
WHOOOOSH
I KNEW IT WAS A MISTAKE TO LEAVE OUR WEAKEST BEHIND...

SHOOOOF
YOU WON'T GET AWAY!!

THAT'S MY LINE.
LOOK DOWN!






YOU... DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN STOP US?!!
HMPH...
WHY NOT?


NARUTO
TM

Number 192: The Plan...!!



!
...?!
FOOOSH...
!!
FLICK
FLICK


READ THIS WAY


HEH...
WHIRL


!

FWHOOT


!


WHAT?!


ME, NARUTO, KIBA, NEJI...
EVEN THIS MUCH PLANNING'S NOT ENOUGH, HUH...


WHIIINE
BOOF...


SHIP
SHIP
SHOOP
ONE COCOON, COMING RIGHT UP!
UGH!
SHOOOOOM
TA-DAA
PLUNK
AGH!
KLAK
SCRAPE
WONG


READ THIS WAY


UGH! WHAT'S UP WITH THESE STRANDS?!
CAN'T CUT 'EM!

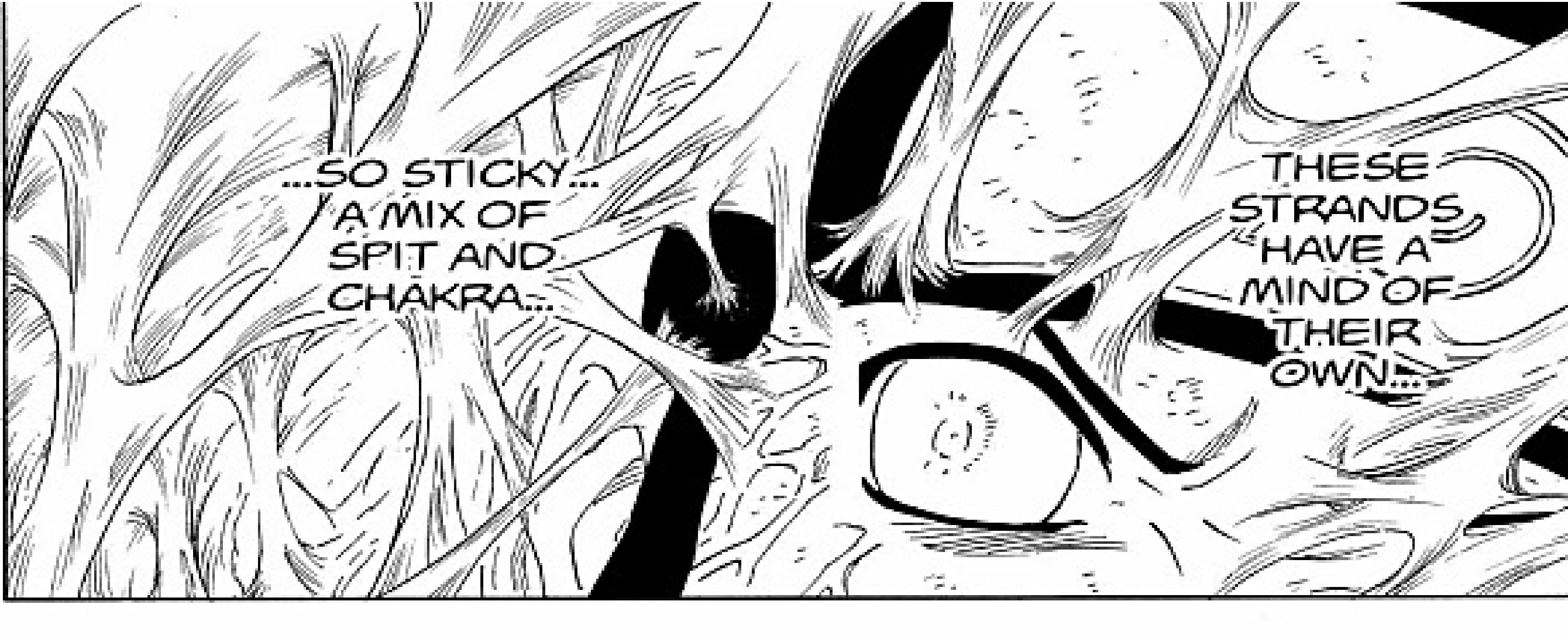

MY SPIDER THREADS ARE SO STRONG...
...EVEN TWO ELEPHANTS PULLING TOGETHER CAN'T SNAP 'EM.
SLITHER...

...


HUH... SHADOW DOPPEL-GANGERS, HOW INTER-ESTING.

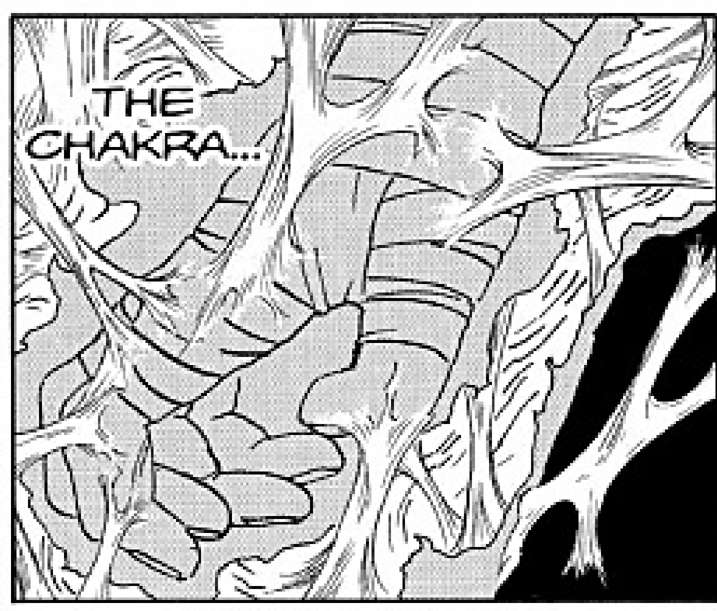

GRR...
PUFF

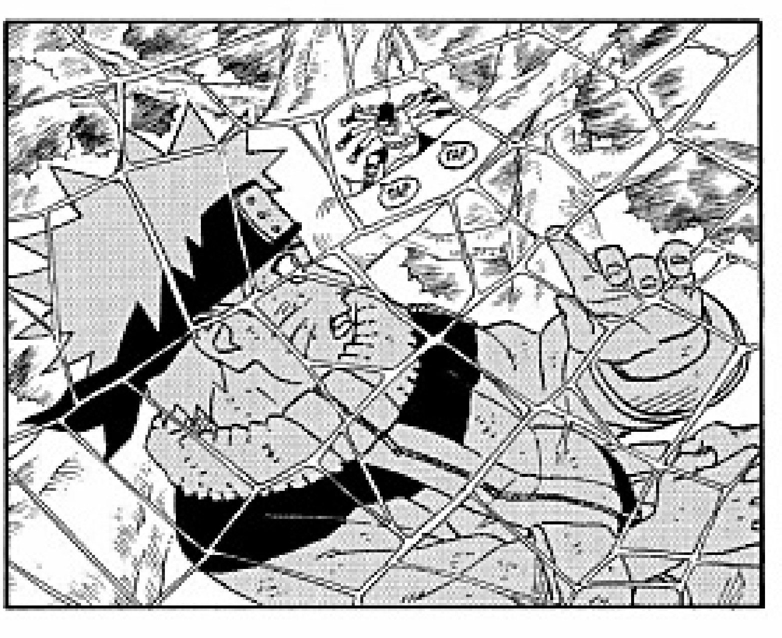

CRUNCH CRUNCH


THESE STRANDS HAVE A MIND OF THEIR OWN...
...SO STICKY... A MIX OF SPIT AND CHAKRA...


GROSS... THEY'RE STILL SO STRONG, EVEN AFTER HE'S LET GO OF THEM... THE CHAKRA MUST KEEP CIRCULATING.
HIS JUTSU IS WAY TOO STRONG...

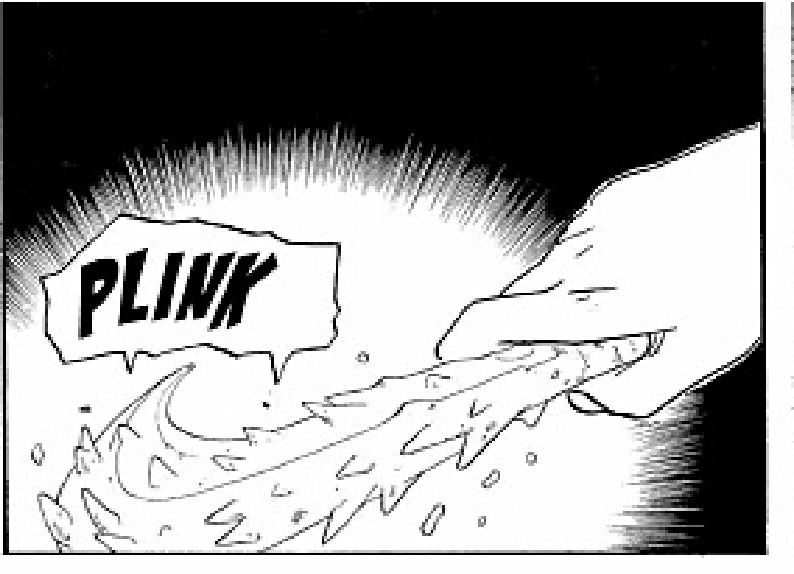

...
HMM...


THE CHAKRA...

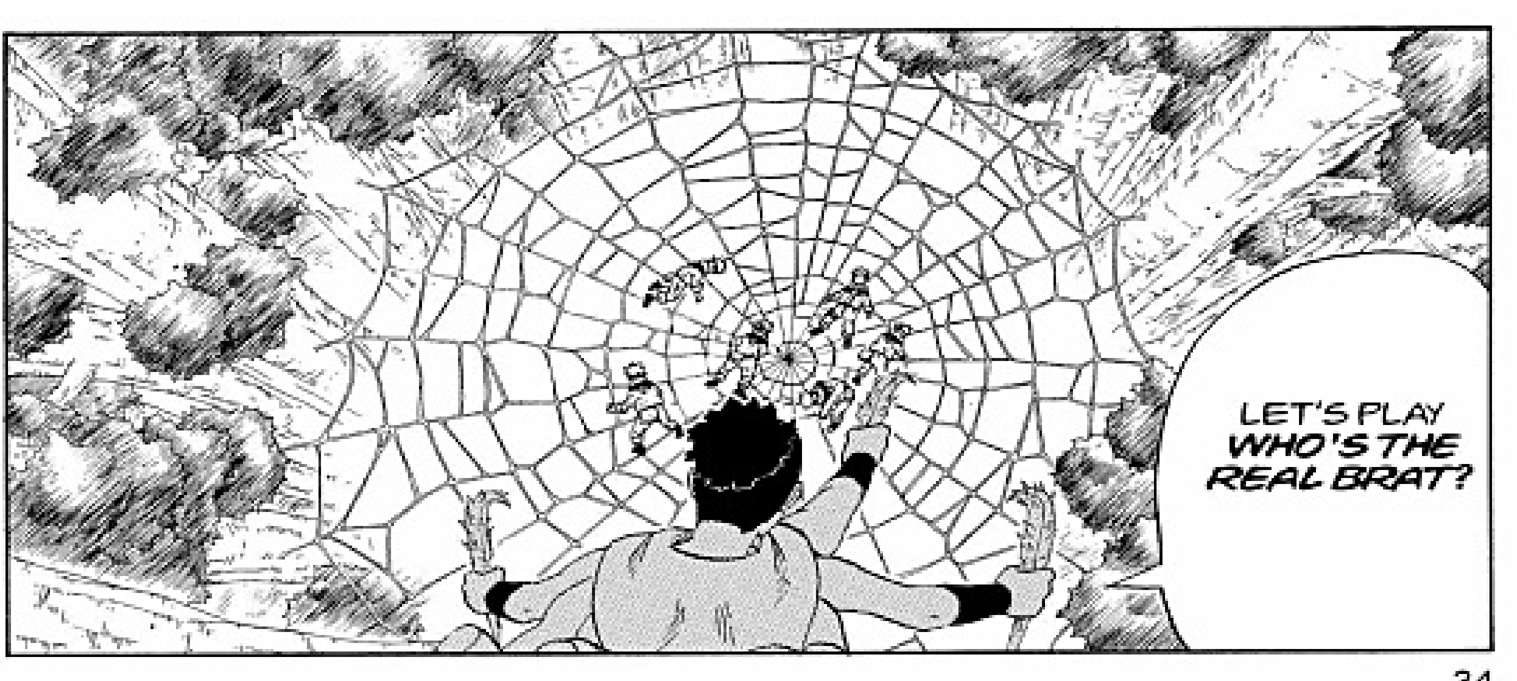



READ THIS WAY

SNIK
SNIK
SNIK
SNIK
CHOMP
CHOMP
FSSSHT
NINJA ART: KUMO-NENKIN! GUM-STYLE SPIDER THREAD!!
SNAP
DIFFERENT COLORED STRANDS THAN BEFORE?!
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?
!


PLINK


THEY'RE STRONG!
!

HEH... YOU'RE THE FIRST TO GO, SO I'M GOING TO HAVE ME SOME FUN!
PLINK!

LET'S PLAY *WHO'S THE REAL BRAT?*


UGH!
FIRST CONTESTANT, THE OUTERMOST!
FWISH
GRR...!
!
CHAK
!

BOOF

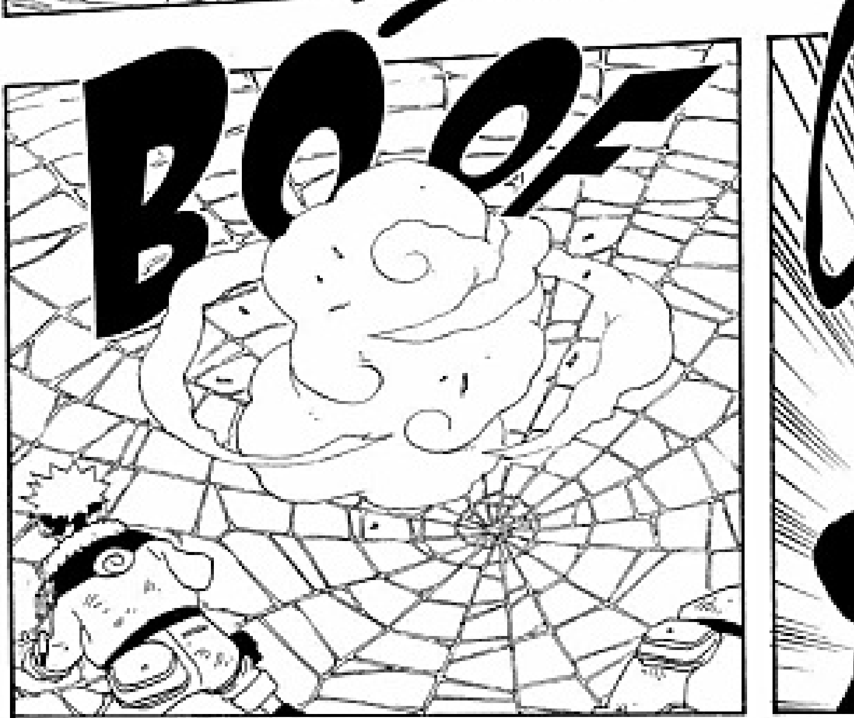
HUMPH... A DOPPEL-GANGER.

WELL THEN...

SHUP

HOW ABOUT THAT ONE!!






HEH HEH... YOU ARE SO LUCKY.
FWISH FWISH
ALL RIGHT, THIS TIME, TWO AT ONCE!
I'VE GOT A 50 PERCENT CHANCE!!
CH CH OK OK
BOOF BOOF
UGH...


ARGH!!
ARF... ARF!
...!!
...!
A-HAHAHA, WHAT LUCK!
WE'RE DOWN TO TWO!!

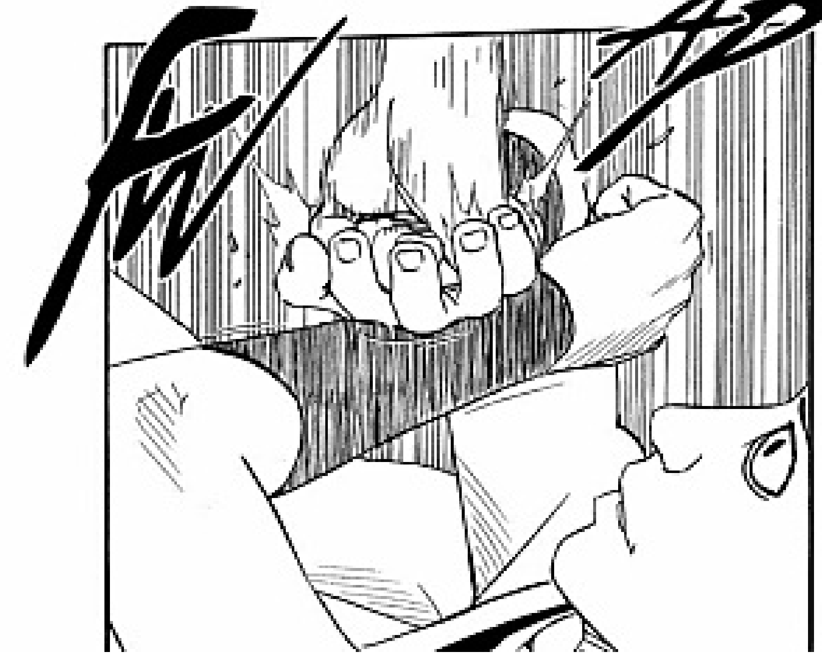

READ THIS WAY
BOOF
...
PSHAW... I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS...
WELL... I SUPPOSE IT WAS MORE FUN THIS WAY...
...BUT NOW GAME OVER!
FWISH
ONE DOWN... THREE TO GO!


CHOK
BOOF

WHAT?!!



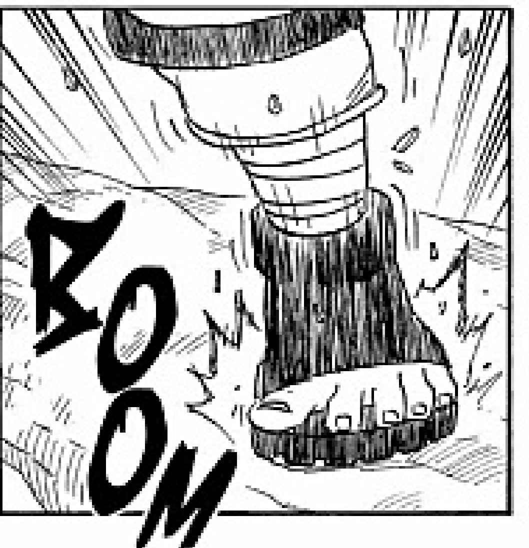




SCREECH

HUH!

FFFT FFFT





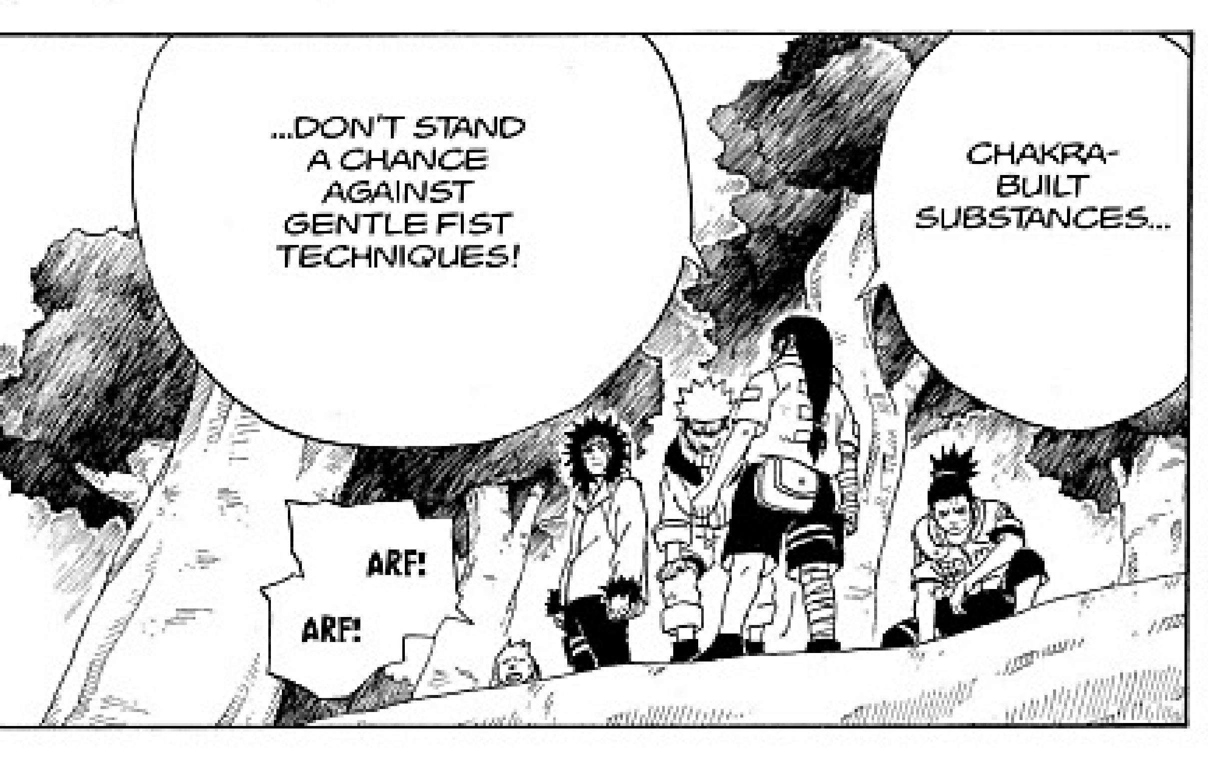


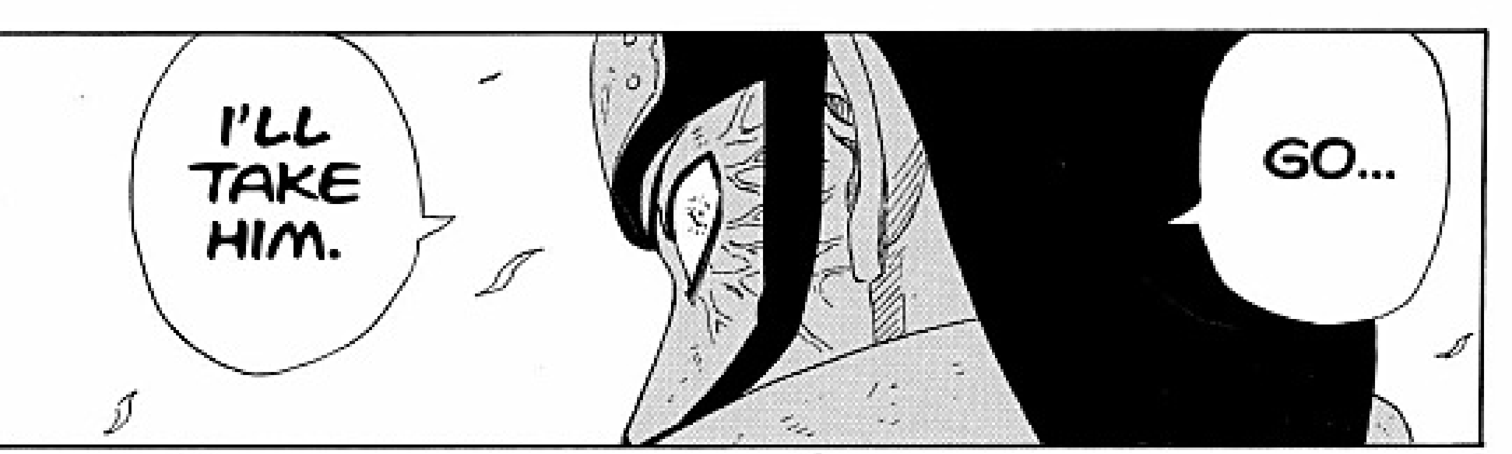

NOW I SEE... HE WAS BIDING HIS TIME WITH DOPPEL-GANGERS.
I CAN'T BELIEVE A SCUMBAG LIKE HIM PLANNED "SOMETHING" THIS COMPLICATED...
NOT BAD... BUT...
!
...NOW IT'S REALLY END GAME! DIE!
WAAH!!
FOOSH
WOOSH

SNAP




YOU... HOW DIDJA...?!

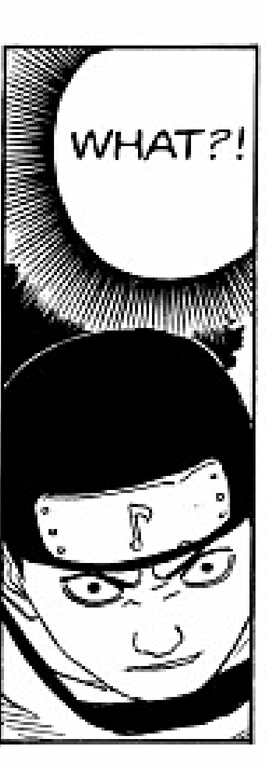

CHAKRA-BUILT SUBSTANCES...
...DON'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST GENTLE FIST TECHNIQUES!
ARF! ARF!


GO...
I'LL TAKE HIM.

!!!


TAP


FAP
THANKS FOR BUYING ME TIME, NARUTO.

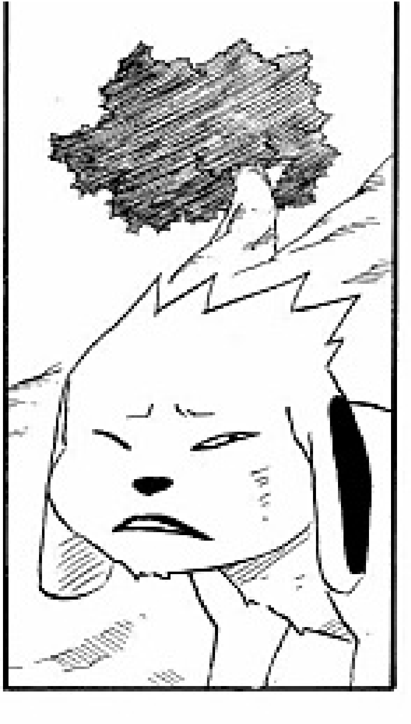
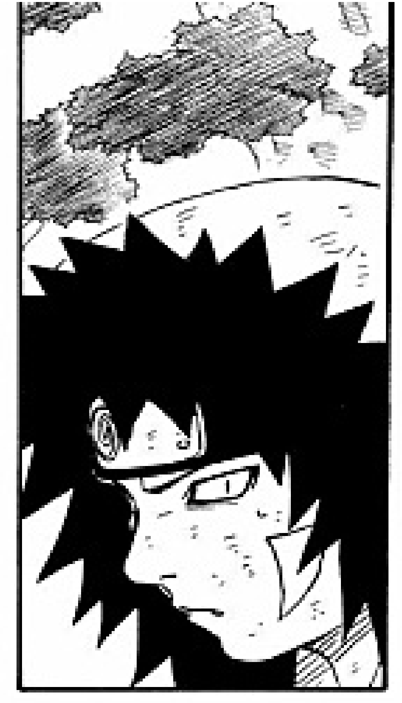

WHAT?!

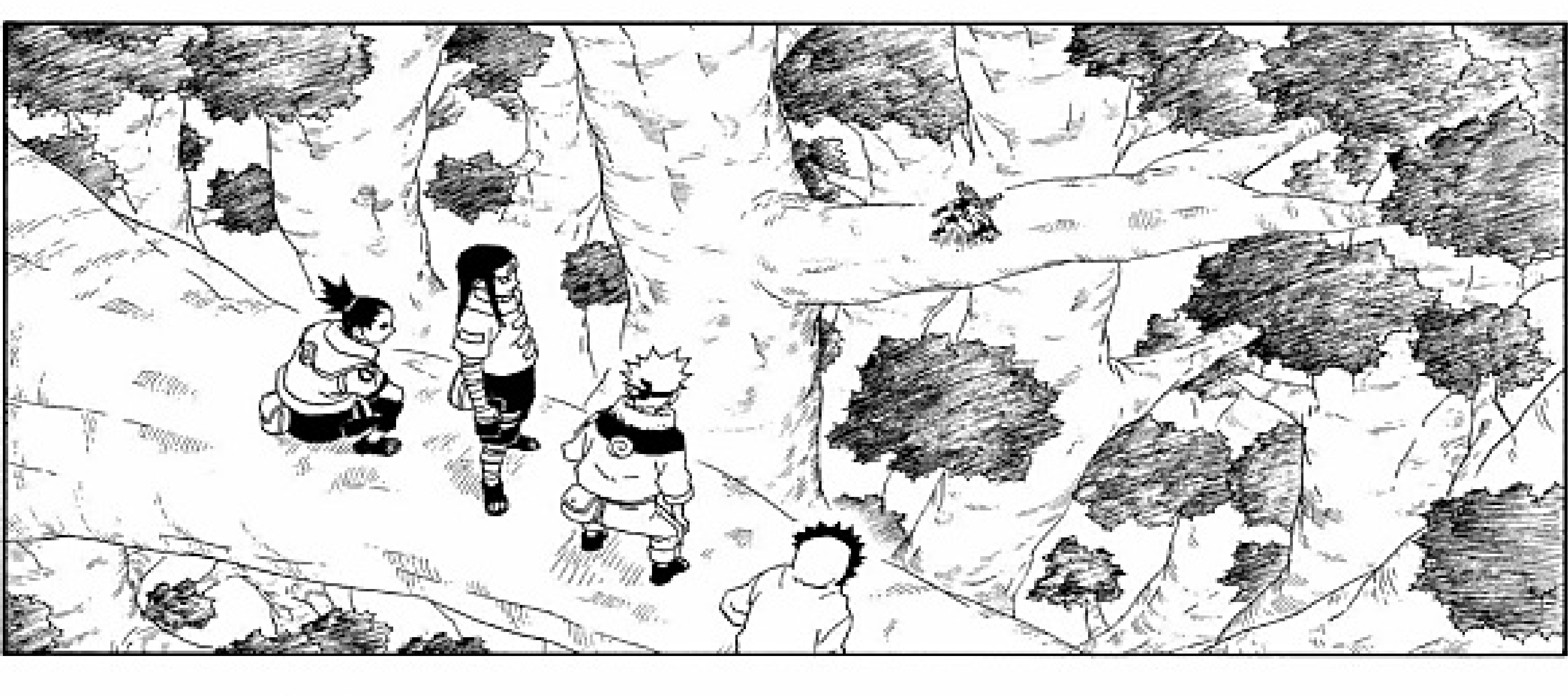



THIS GUY'S JUTSU... I THINK I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HANDLE THEM.


NARUTO
TM


Number 193: Game Over

...
KIK
KIK

WHIIINE
HM
HM


...HE SAYS THIS GUY'S TOUGHER THAN THE BIG GUY EARLIER.

A LOT TOUGHER...







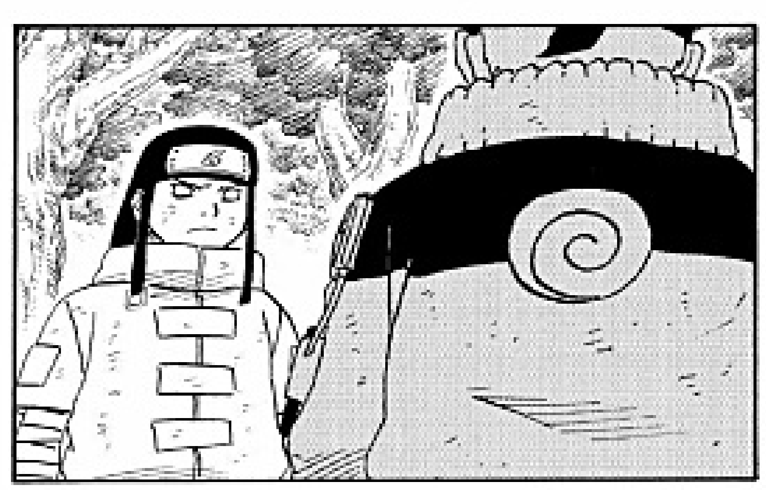


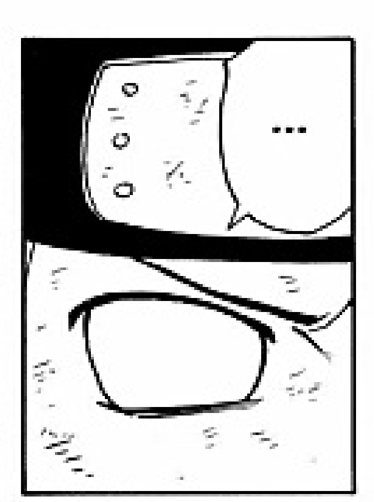






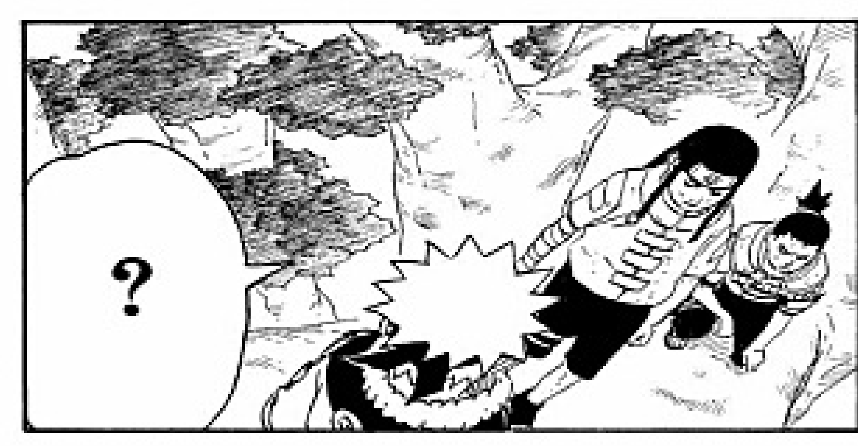




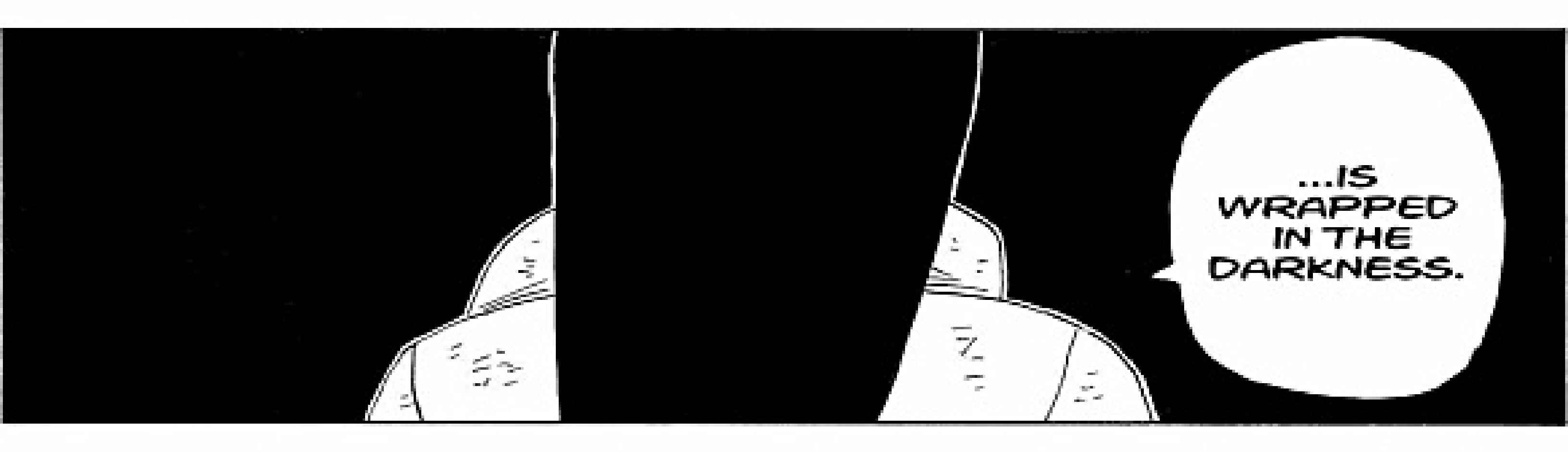


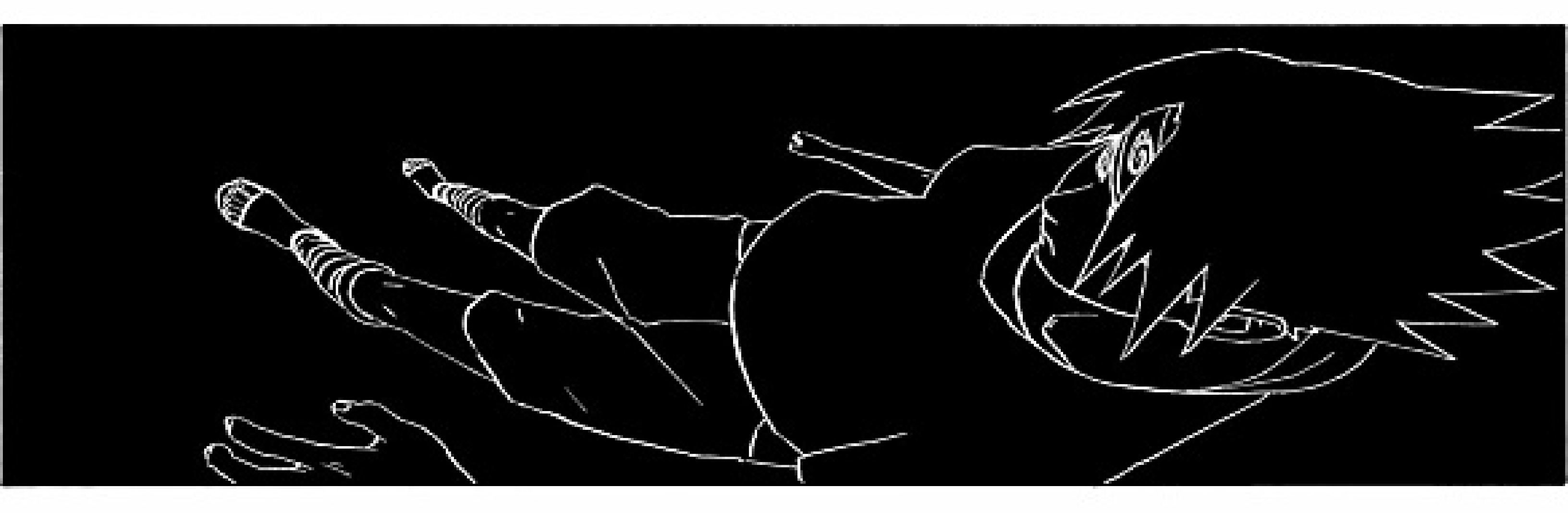
YOU'VE GOT BETTER SIGHT THAN I DO.

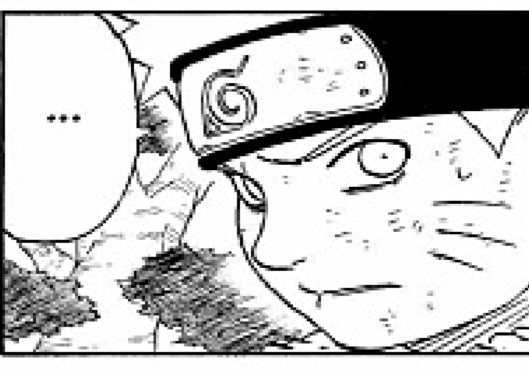

READ THIS WAY


?


RIGHT NOW, SASUKE...
TAP


...IS WRAPPED IN THE DARKNESS.



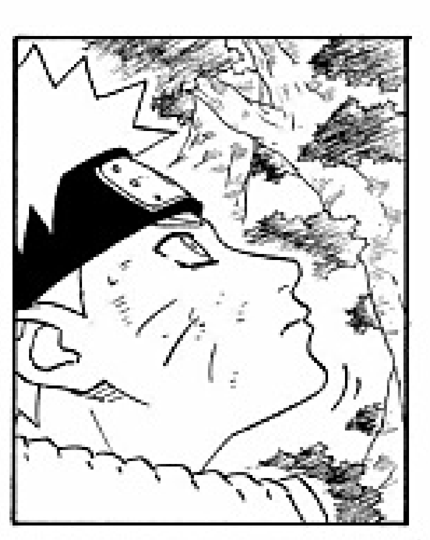

...


NOW GO!
I'LL CATCH UP TO YOU LATER, TOO!!

YUP!

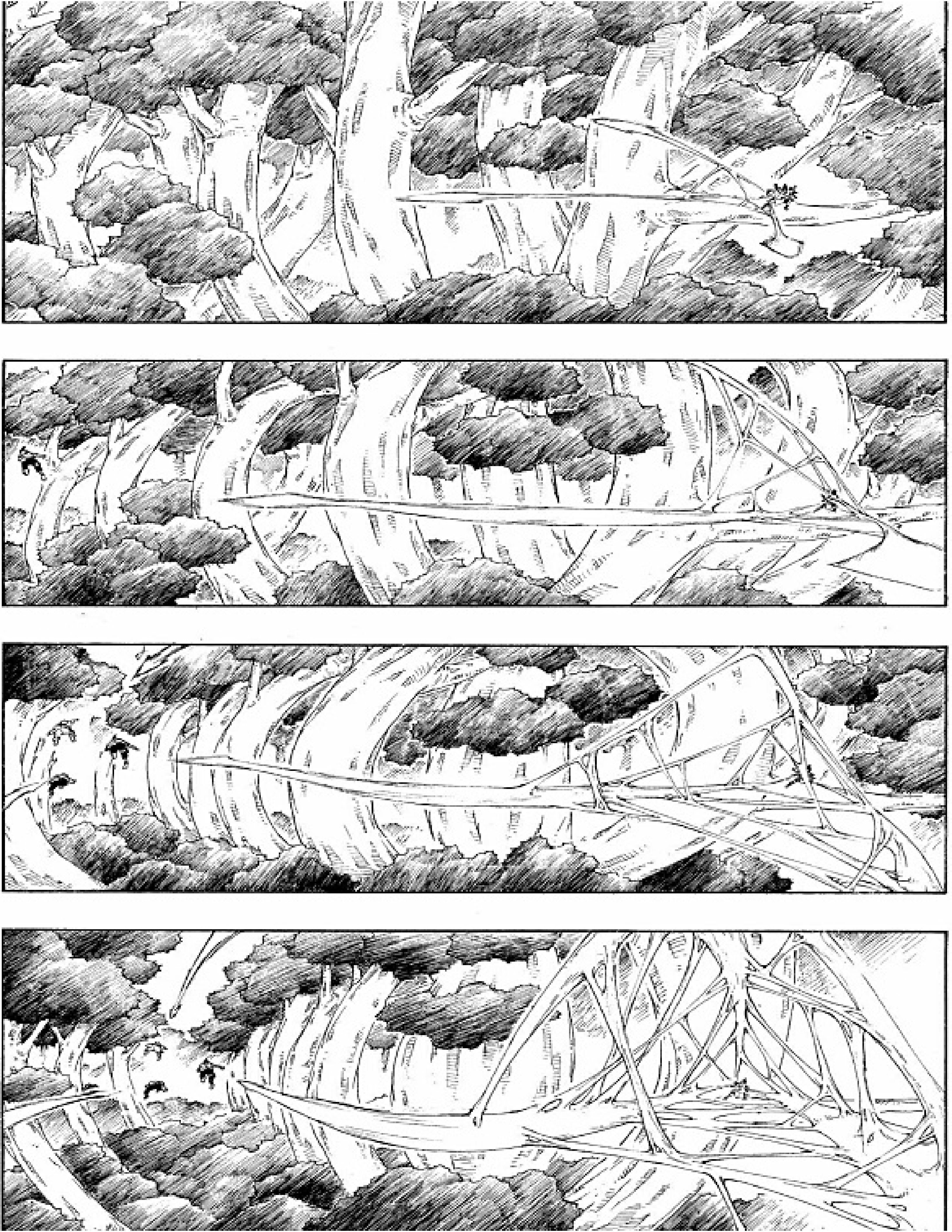






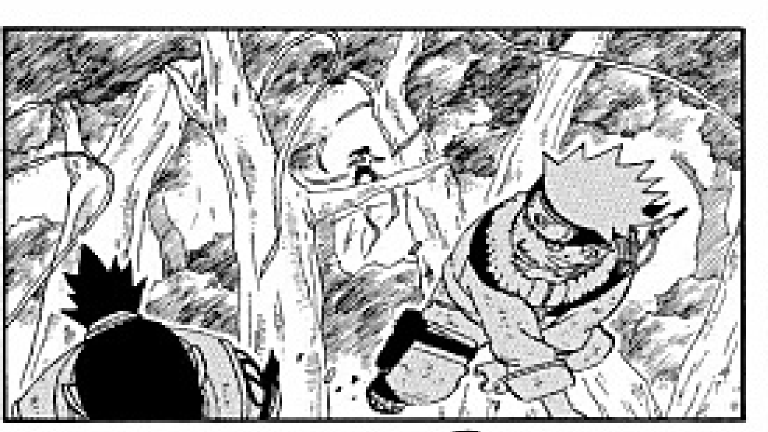



HUMPH... YOU AIN'T GETTING AWAY!
FWIP
FWSH
GRRRR
BYAKUGAN!




THWAP
WHOOOSH...
ZAP
!
ZAP
!
BUZZ
BUZZ
!!


...!
THIS GUY'S GOOD...!




FWIP
BUT... THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'M GIVING UP.
FWIP
FWIP
WHAP
WHAP
WHAP
WHAP


...
KRIK

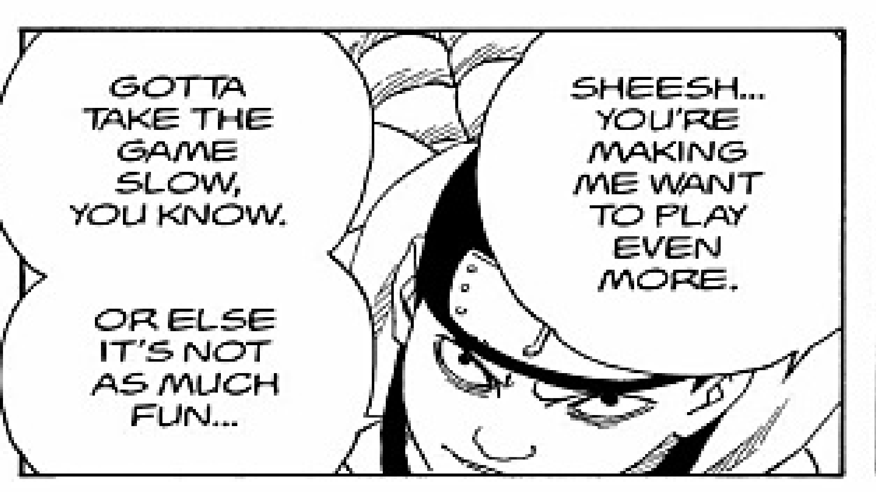


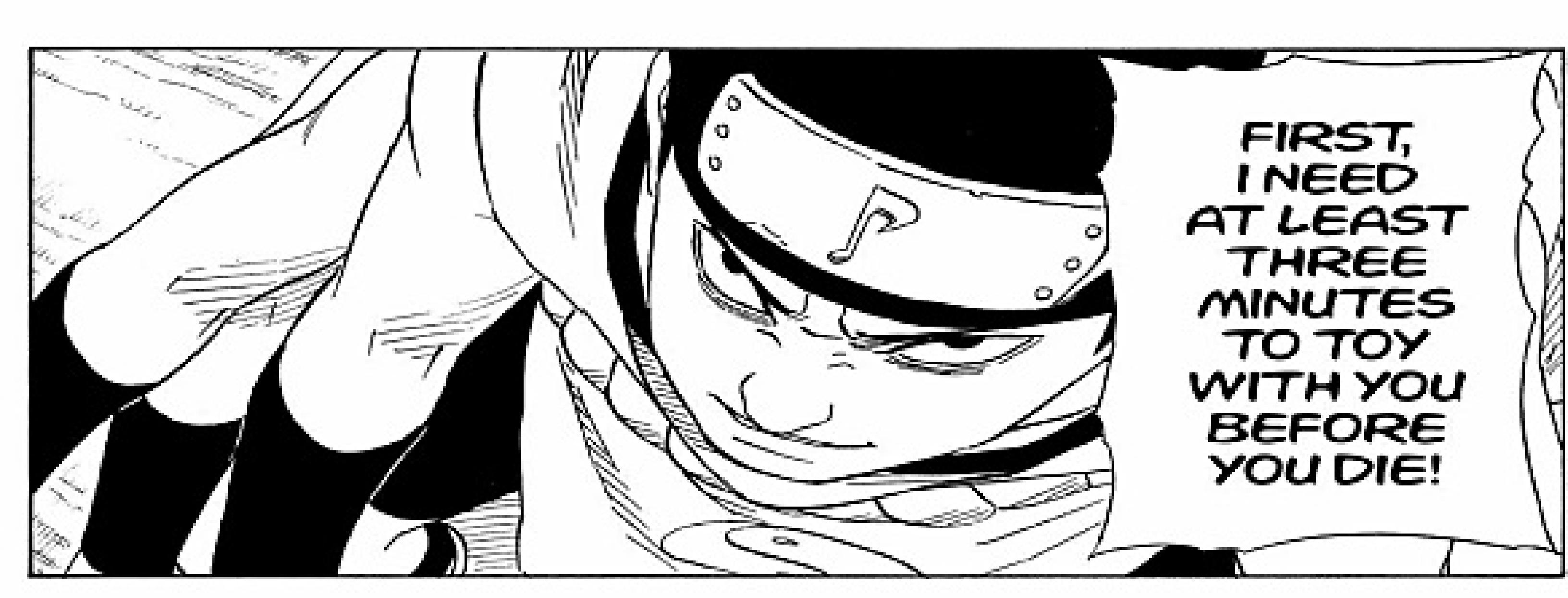

READ THIS WAY


HEH HEH... WELL...
NEVER MIND.

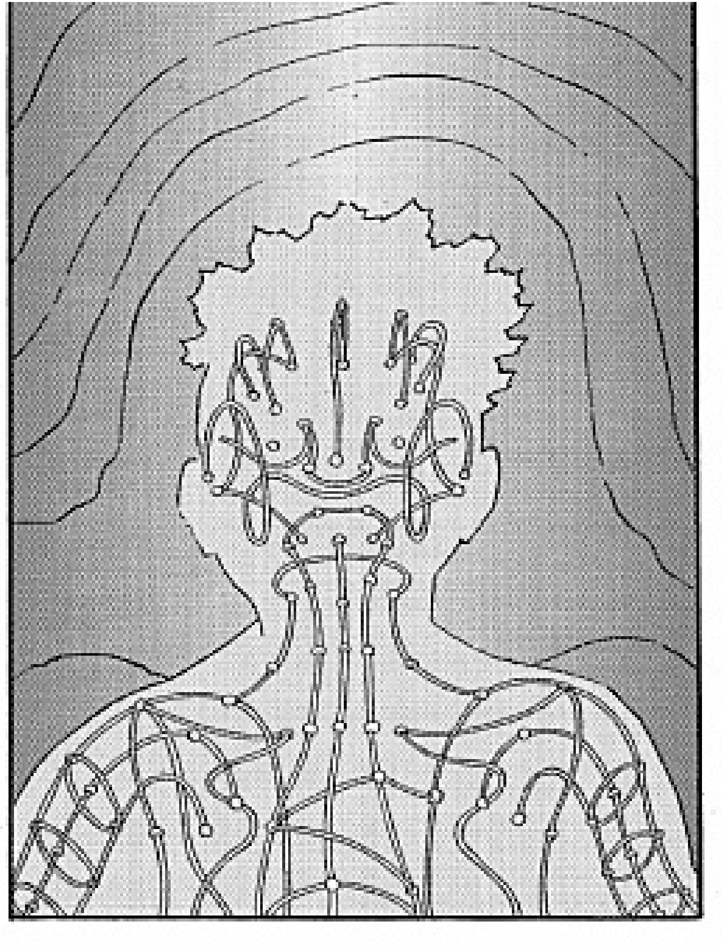
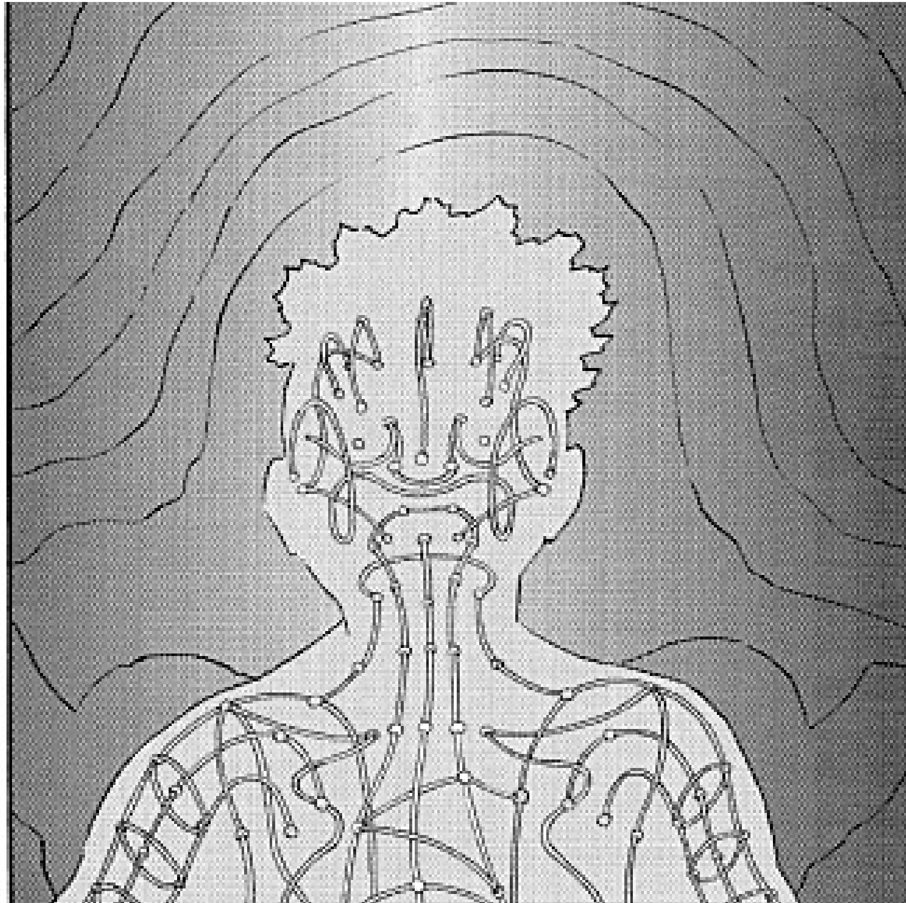

SO YOU'RE THE STRONGEST...
...OF THE BUNCH, HUH.

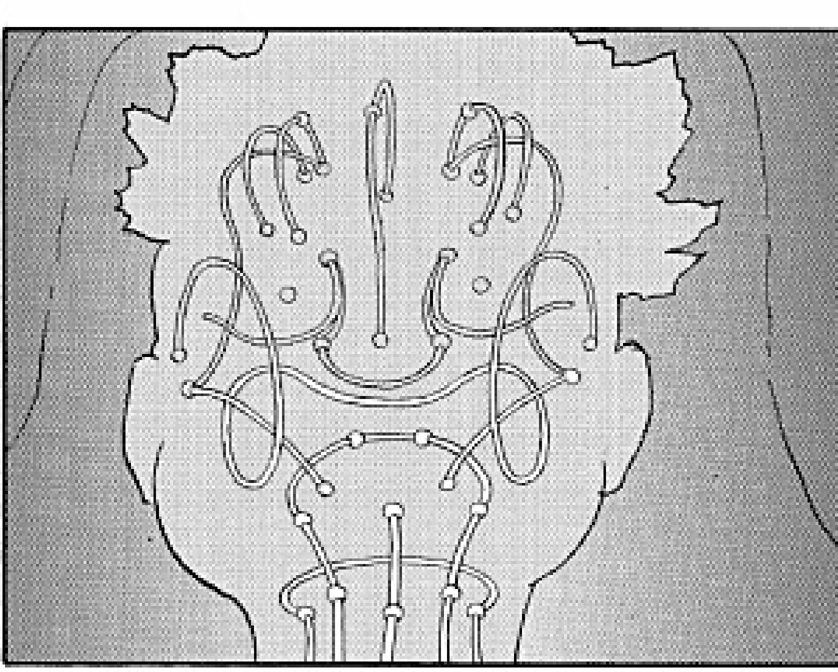
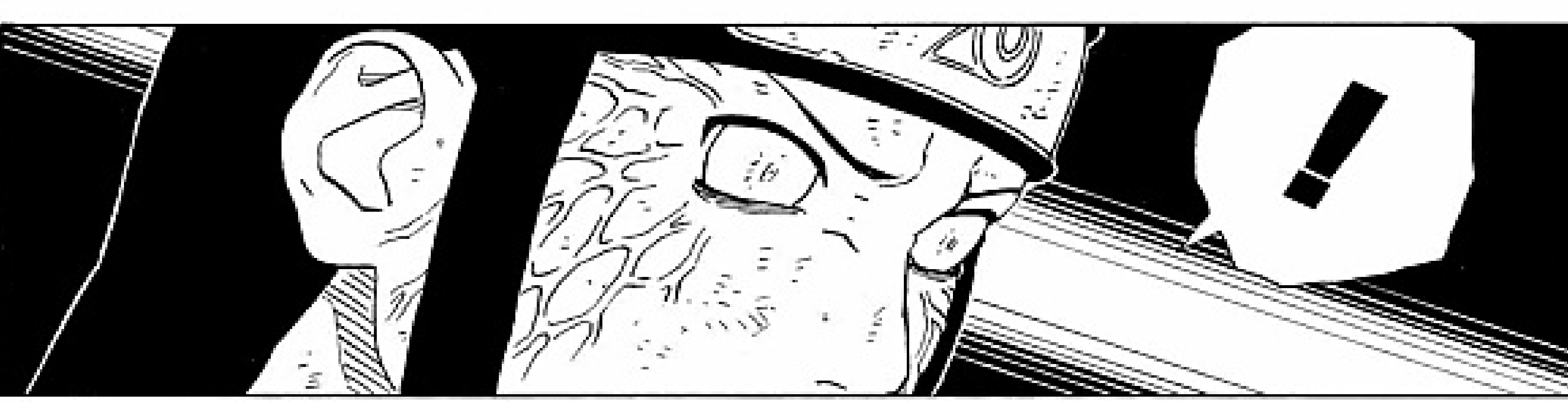


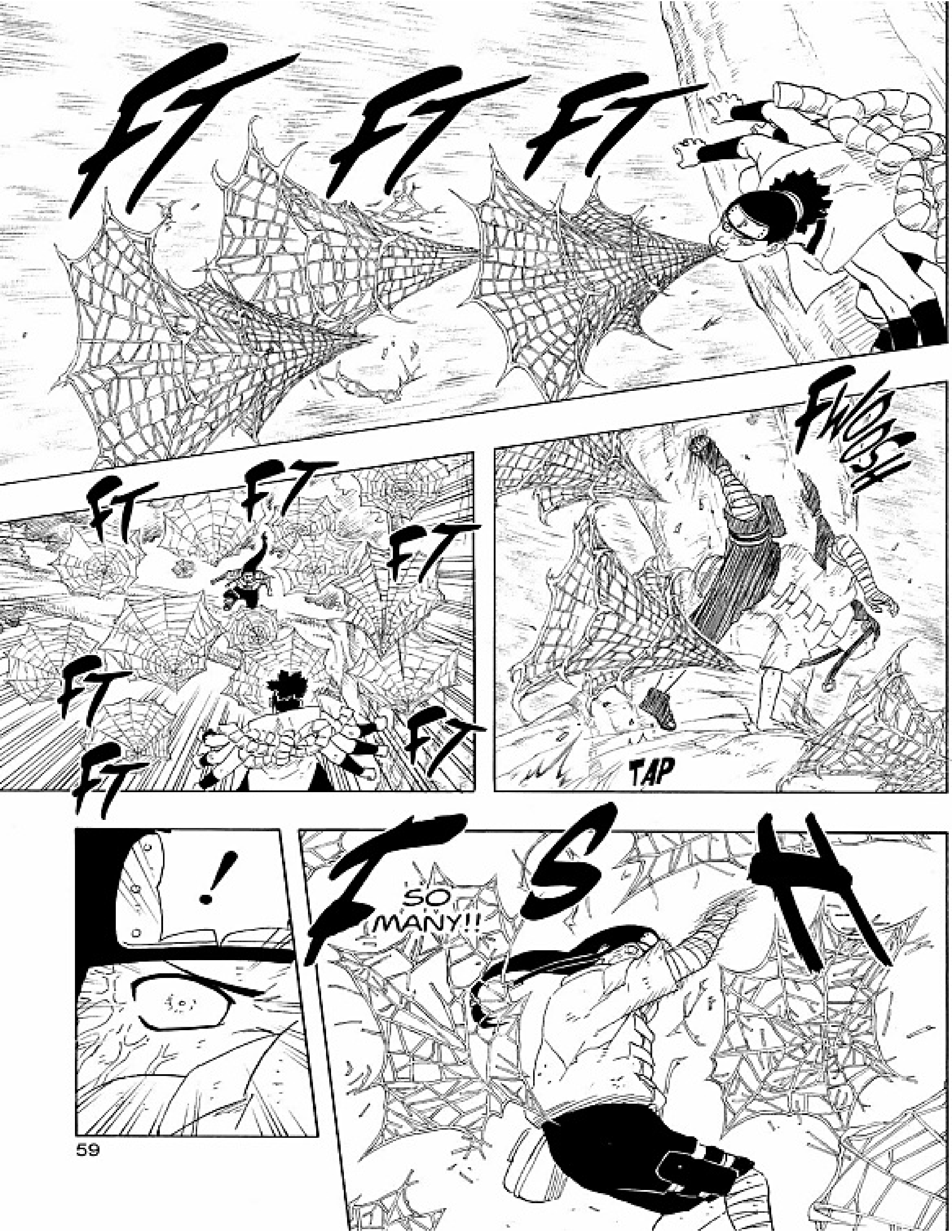

SHEESH... YOU'RE MAKING ME WANT TO PLAY EVEN MORE.
GOTTA TAKE THE GAME SLOW, YOU KNOW.
OR ELSE IT'S NOT AS MUCH FUN...


FIRST, I NEED AT LEAST THREE MINUTES TO TOY WITH YOU BEFORE YOU DIE!


BYAKU-GAN!

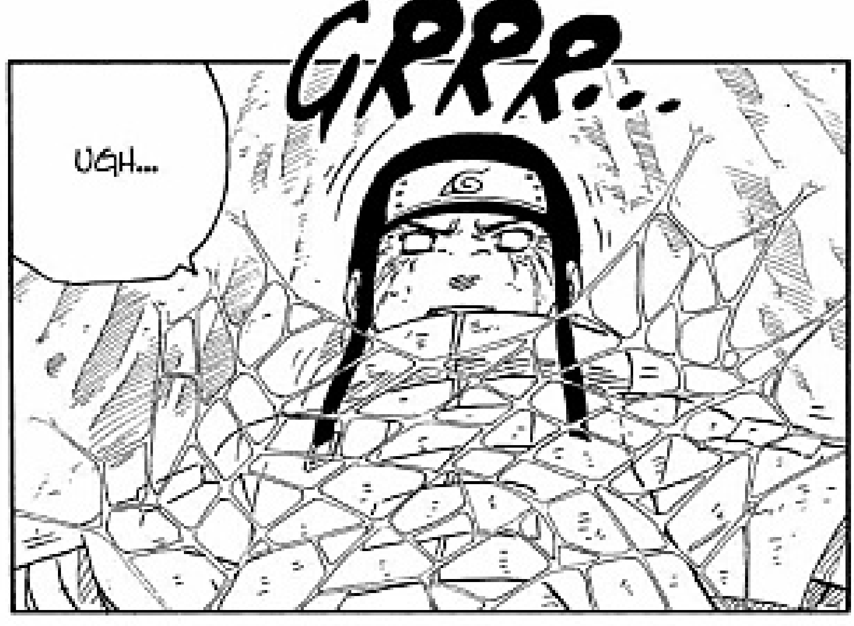



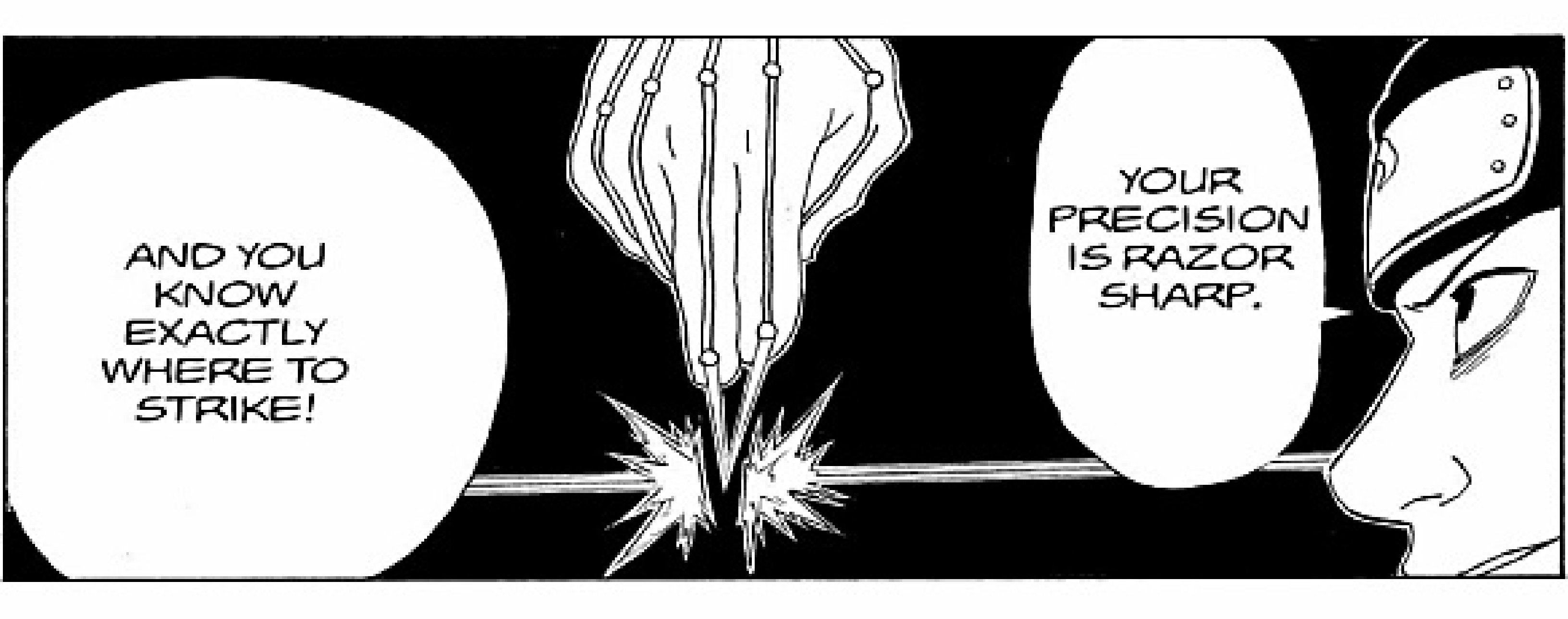


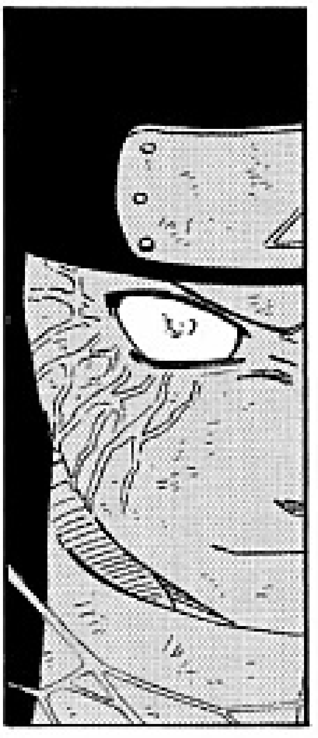
FT
FT
FT
FWOOSH
TAP
FT
FT
FT
FT
FT
FT
FTSH
SO MANY!!
!


SWHOOSH
!
WHUMP
WHAPWAPWAPWAPWAP
KLUNNK
KLUNNK
HUMPH... GOTCHA!


YOU'RE GOOD WITH CHAKRA.
YA GOT SHARP EYES...


GRRR...
UGH...


YOUR PRECISION IS RAZOR SHARP.
AND YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHERE TO STRIKE!



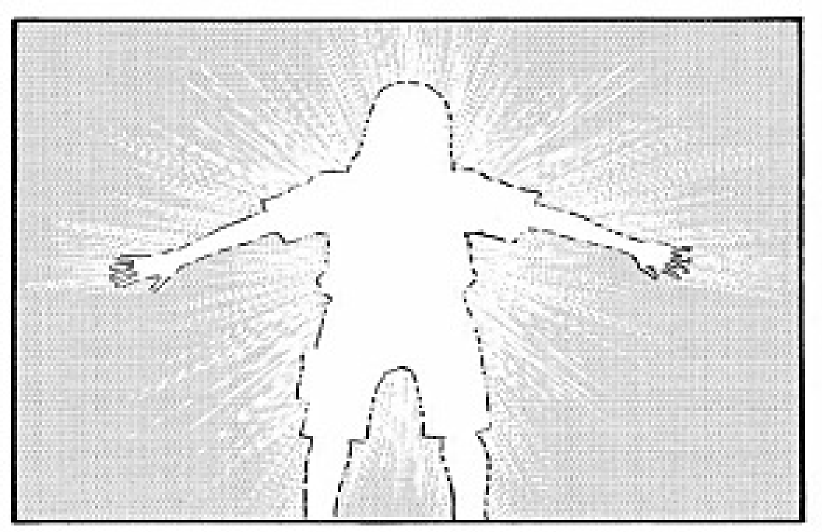

IF YOU CAN'T MOVE YOUR ARMS...
...YOU WON'T SEVER MY THREADS!

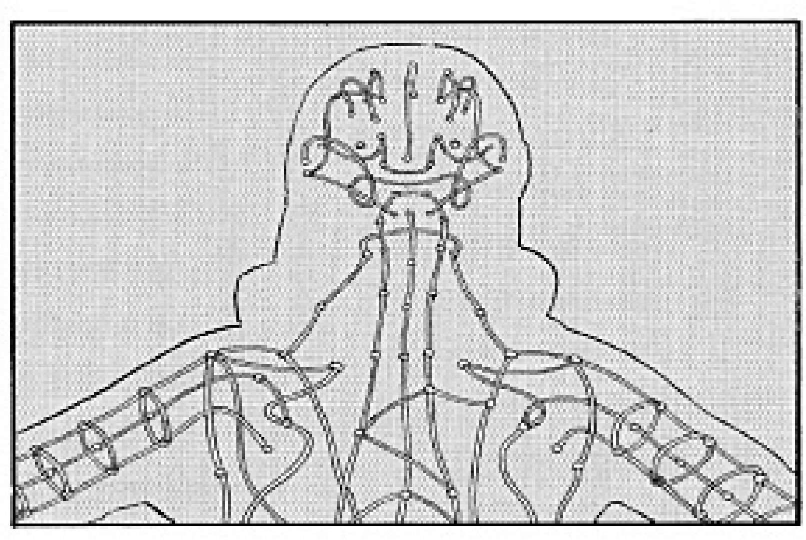

HUMPH...
LORD OROCHI-MARU WARNED ME.
GENTLE FIST, HUH...


ONCE YOU FIGURE OUT THE STRATEGY BEHIND THE GAME...
...IT SUDDENLY STOPS BEING FUN...
IT'S ONLY BEEN A SINGLE MINUTE...
...BUT I'M BORED OF YOU ALREADY...
WHUMP
PUFF...
HUF
CHOMP
CHOMP
DIE!!
DFT

VOOSH

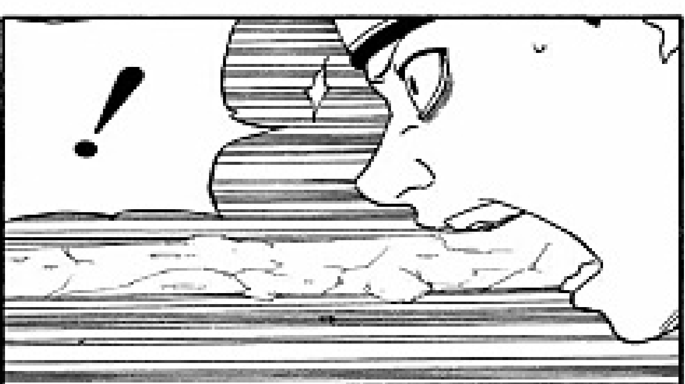
KUMO-NENKIN! GUM-STYLE SPIDER THREAD!!



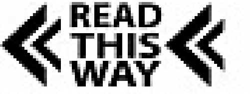









SNAP
CHOK
FWOOSH
WHAT?!
?!!
CHK CHK
HOW?!
SWISH...
!!







GENTLE FIST STYLE...

8 TRIGRAMS 64 PALMS!!


NARUTO
TM


Number 194: Taking Stock

FOOSH

SHOOT...!

SNAP

ARGH!

JAB

8 TRIGRAMS 2 PALMS!!

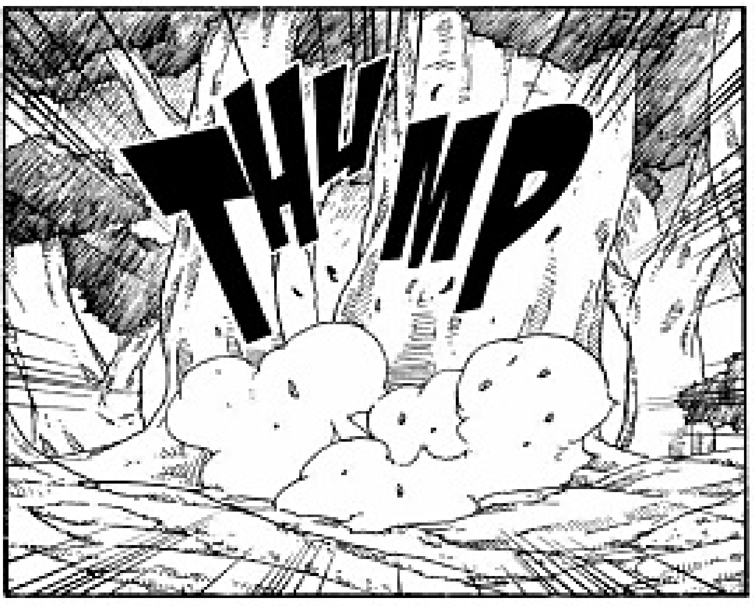
JAB


4 PALMS!!
JAB
JAB
JAB
JAB
8 PALMS!!
JAB
JAB
JAB
16 PALMS!!
JAB
JAB
JAB
32 PALMS!!
JAB
JAB
JAB
JAB
JAB
JAB


JAB
KRAK
JAB
JAB
64 PALMS!!!

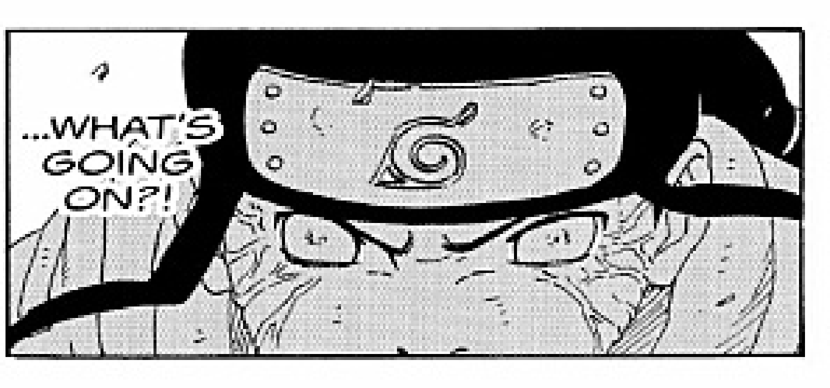

READ THIS WAY

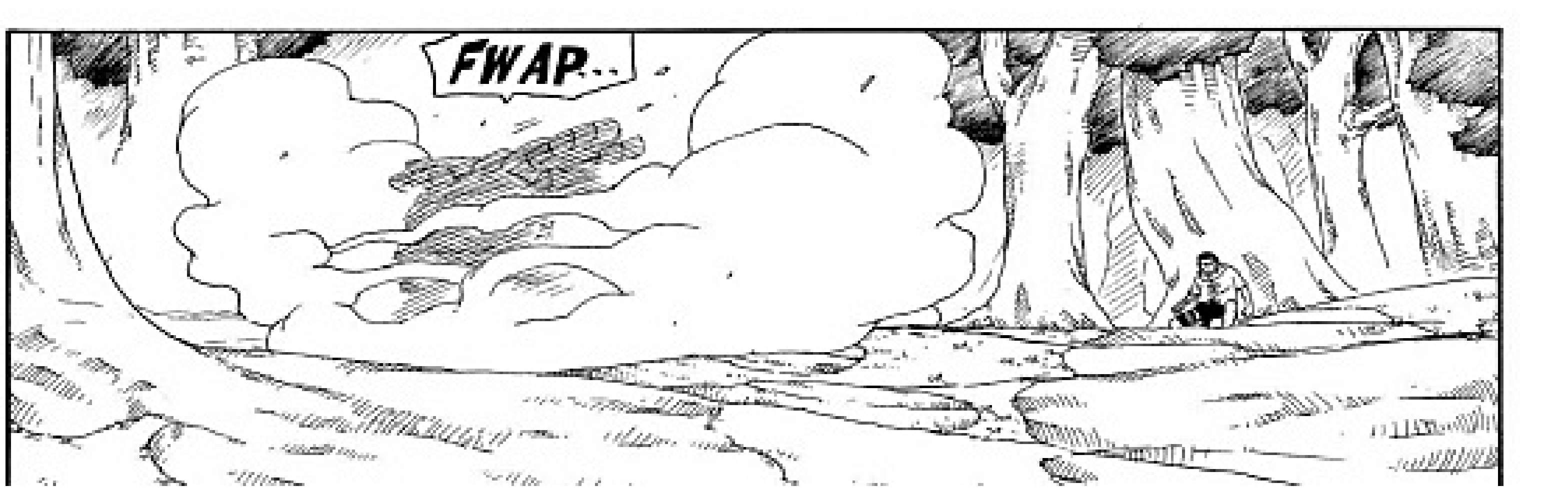

SNAP
SNAP CRACK


THUMP


SWISH


...
TAP

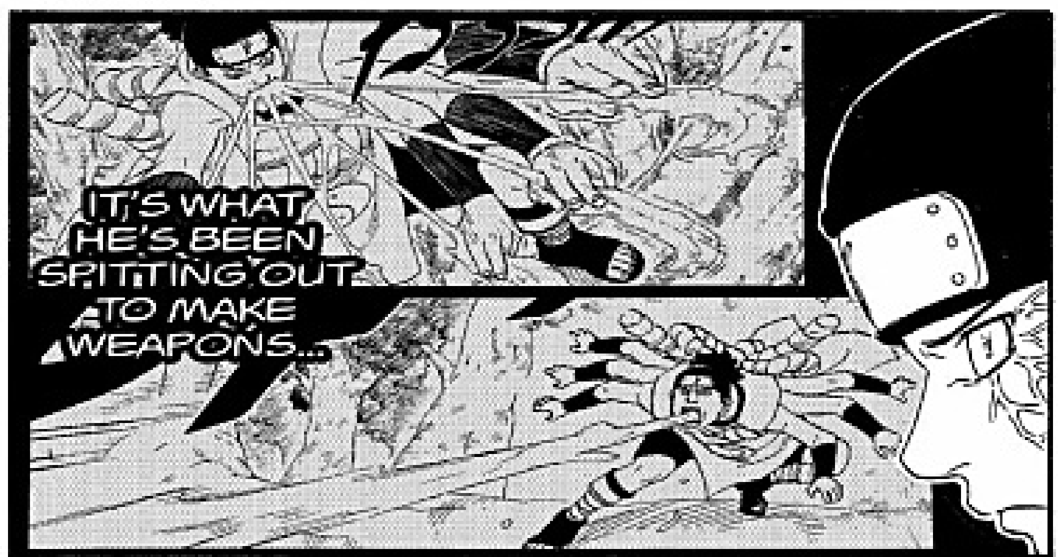

...WHAT'S GOING ON?!


FWAP...

GOLD SKIN...?!
?!
KLINK
SLIP
SMAAAASH
GRRRR
KRINKLE...

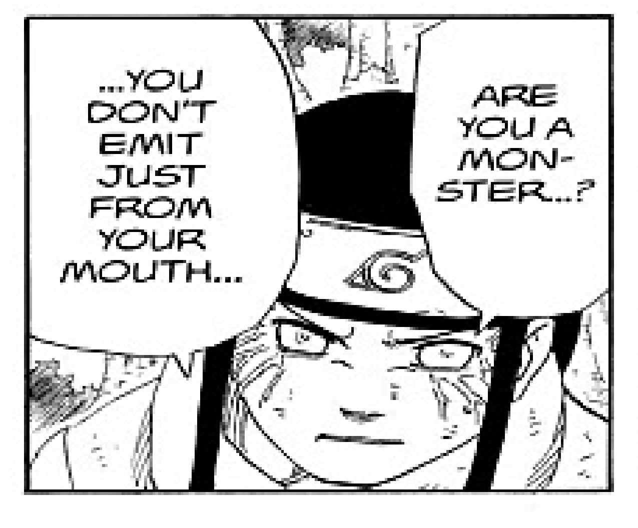


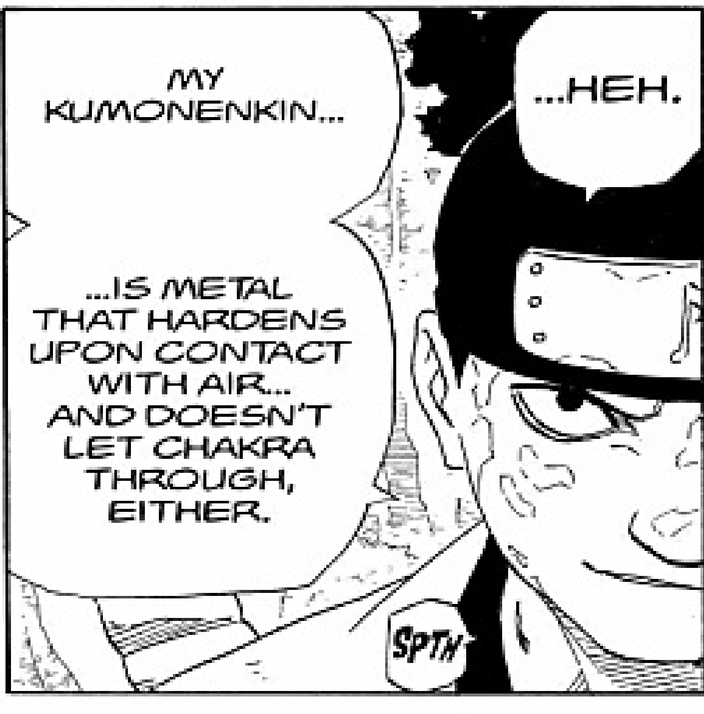


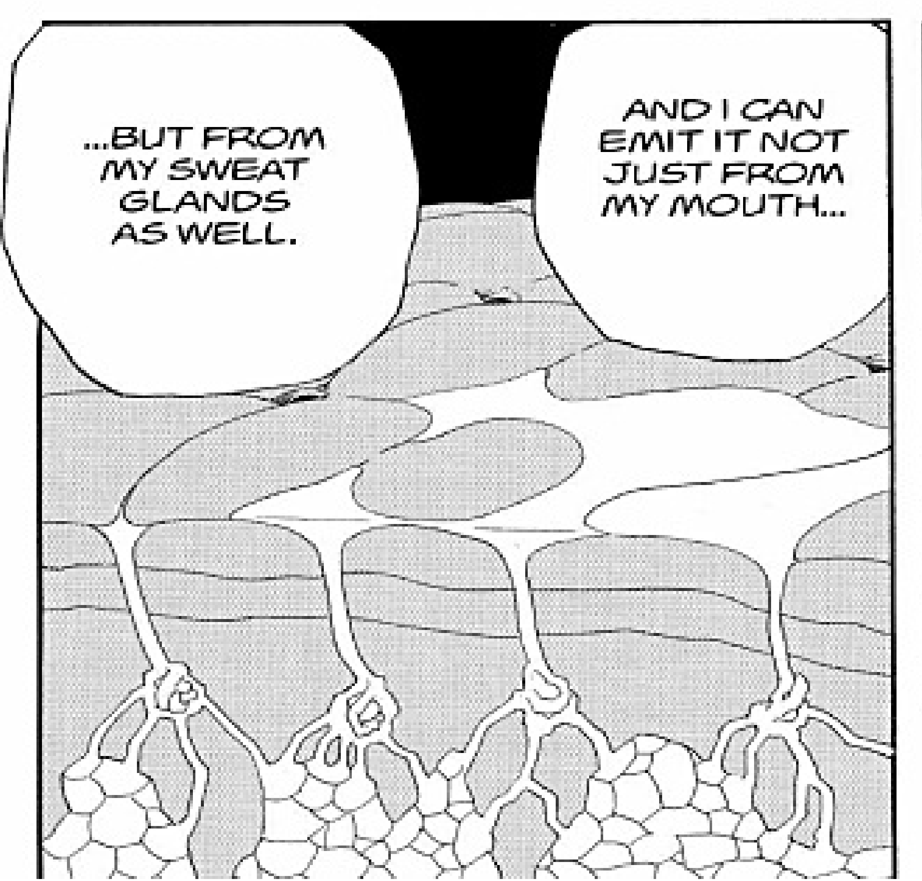




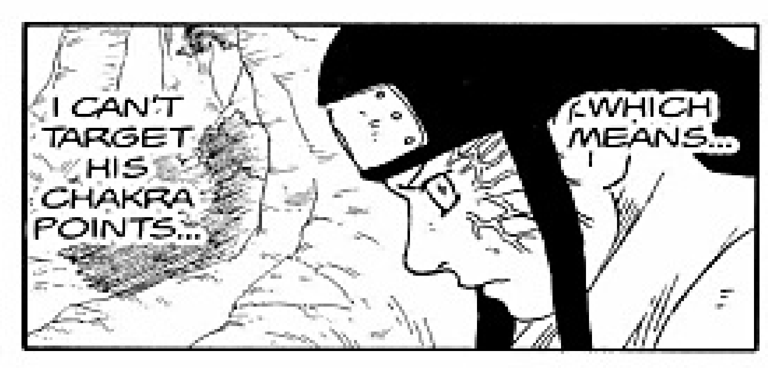
(*CHAKRA NETWORK)







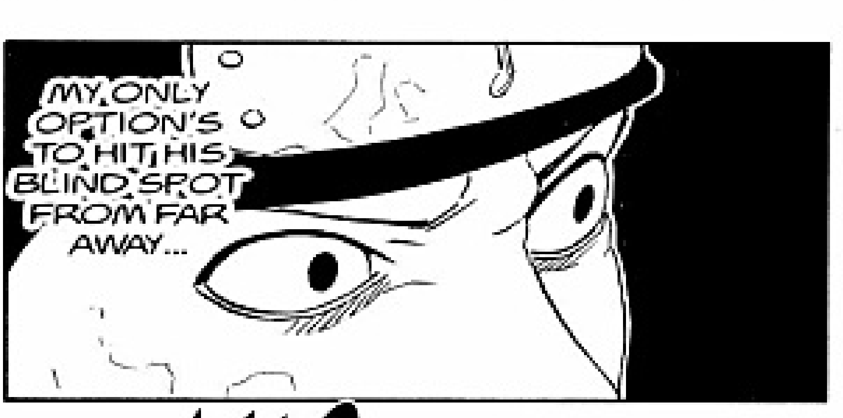




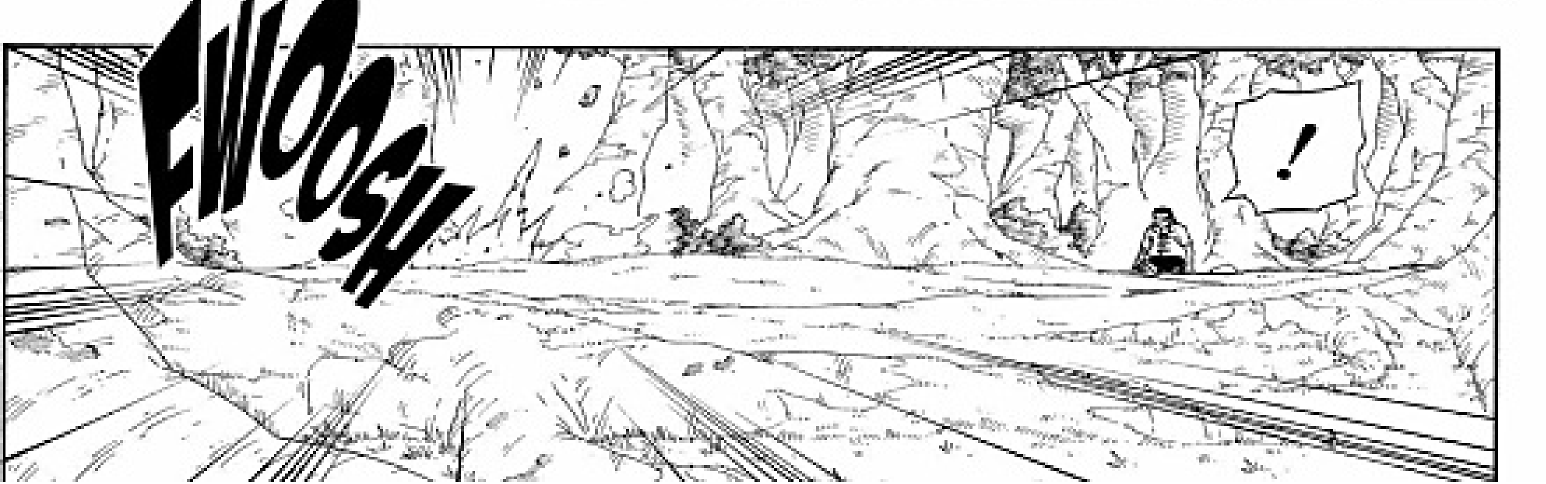
...WHICH MEANS...
I CAN'T TARGET HIS CHAKRA POINTS...



THE KUMOSHIBARI DOESN'T WORK AGAINST HIM...
...AND BECAUSE OF THE GENTLE FIST CLOSE COMBAT'S A NO-NO.



MY ONLY OPTION'S TO HIT HIS BLIND SPOT FROM FAR AWAY...

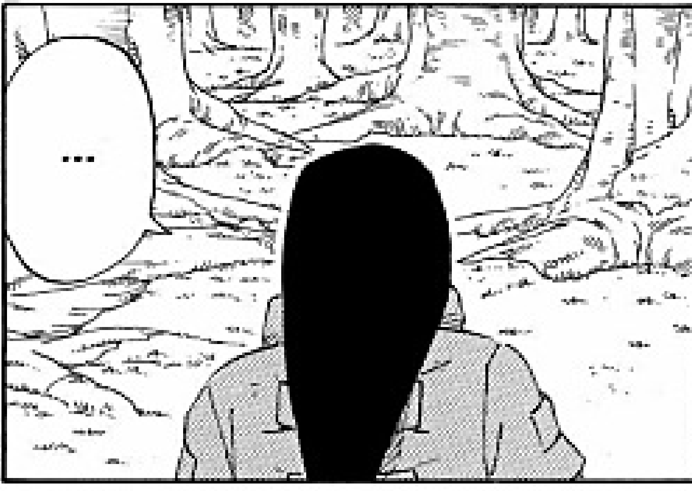


!
FWOOSH


READ
THIS
WAY


ZW ISH

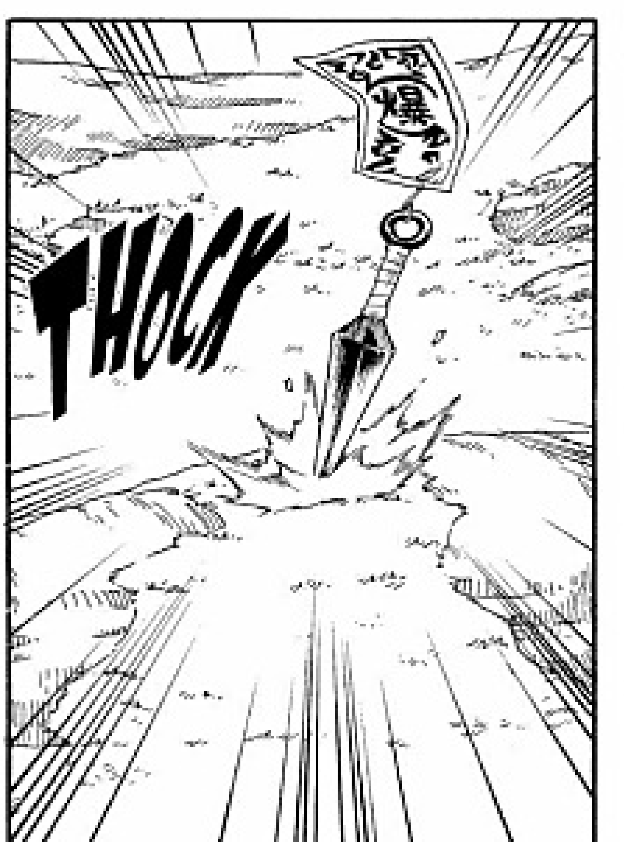

SHOOM SHOOM SHOOM SHOOM


...


...SILENTLY...
AND
RAPIDLY.

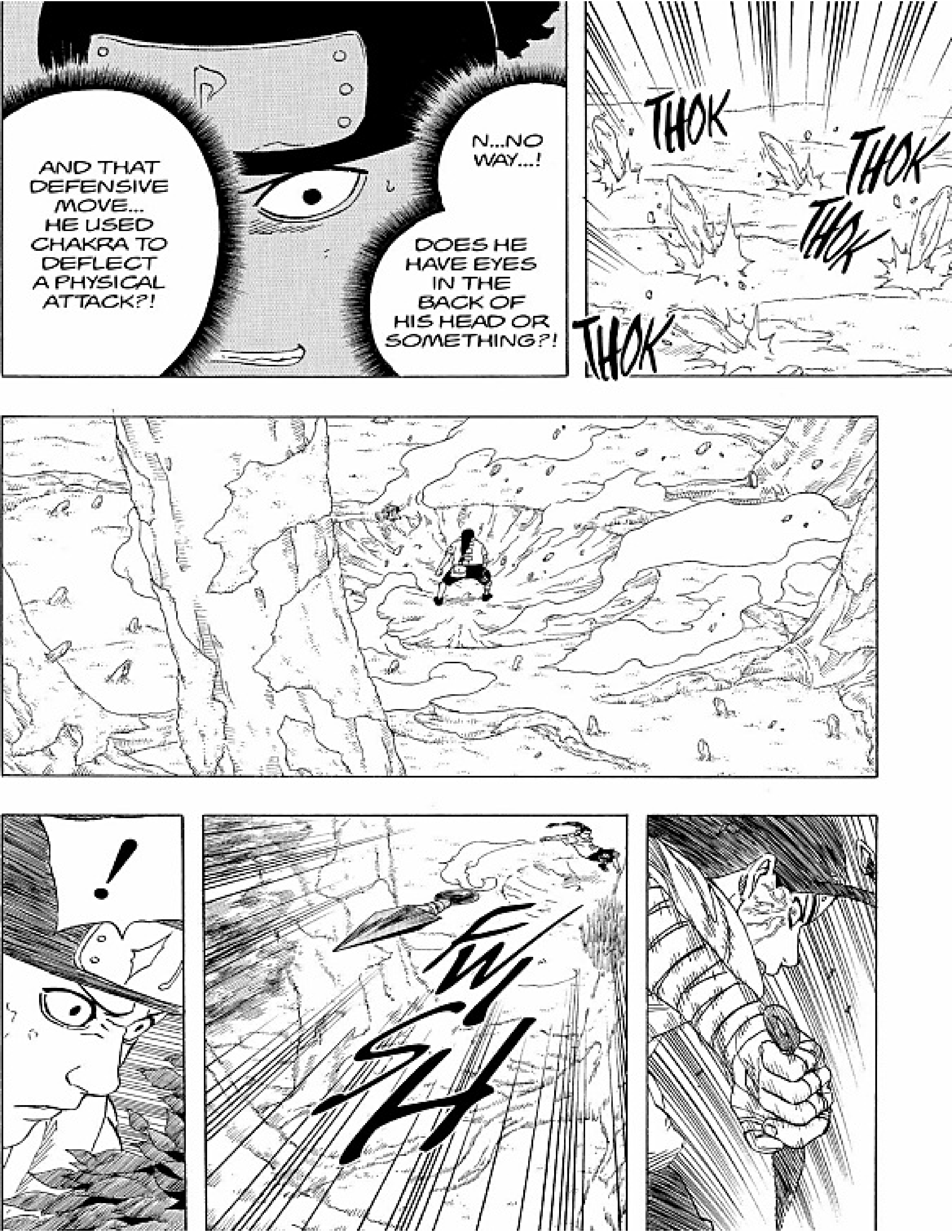

SLIP


!
WHIP


THOCK

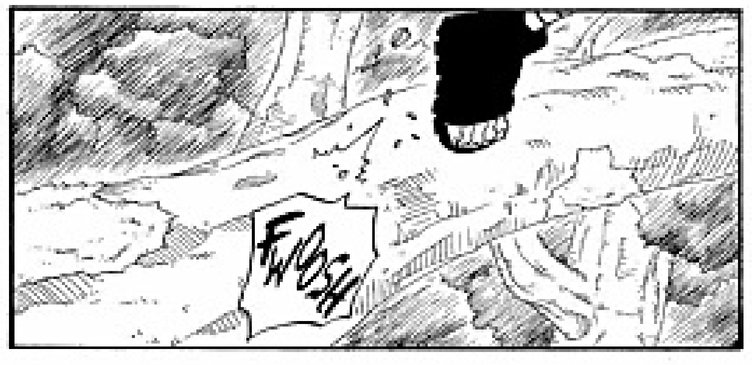

GAME OVER!
!
THAT KUNAI WAS A DECOY...!!


READ THIS WAY
CRACKLE CRACKLE
?!
WHAT?!
8 TRIGRAMS PALM ROTATION!!
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP


AND THAT DEFENSIVE MOVE... HE USED CHAKRA TO DEFLECT A PHYSICAL ATTACK?!
N...NO WAY...!
DOES HE HAVE EYES IN THE BACK OF HIS HEAD OR SOMETHING?!
THOK
THOK
THOK
THOK
!
FWISH

FWOOSH
PSHAW!
FWOOSH
HE CAN SEE ME?!
KLUNK...
I KNOW YOU'RE OVER THERE. COME ON OUT.
WHAT THE HECK IS HE...?!





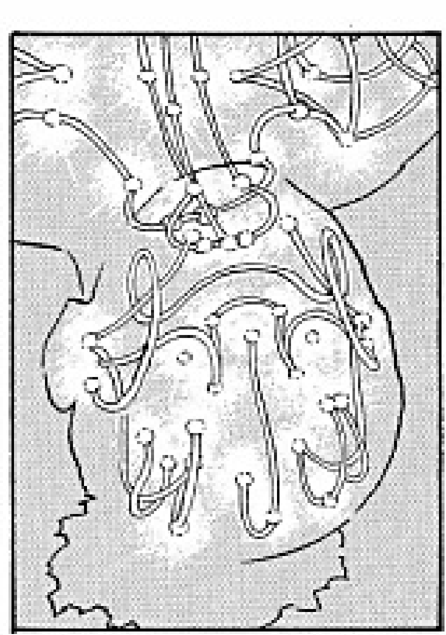


SSSLITHER

FINE... I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU THAT THIS GAME'S GOT A HIGHER DIFFICULTY LEVEL THAN I EXPECTED!

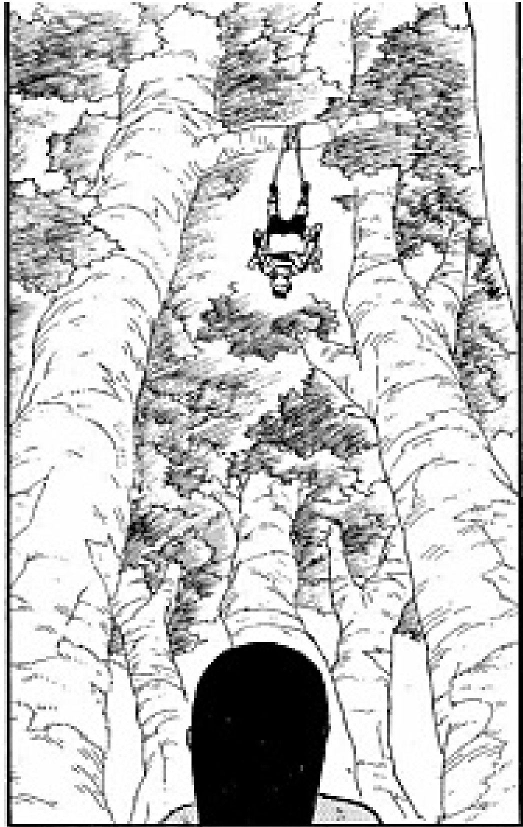
SO FROM HERE ON OUT NO MORE MR. NICE GUY...

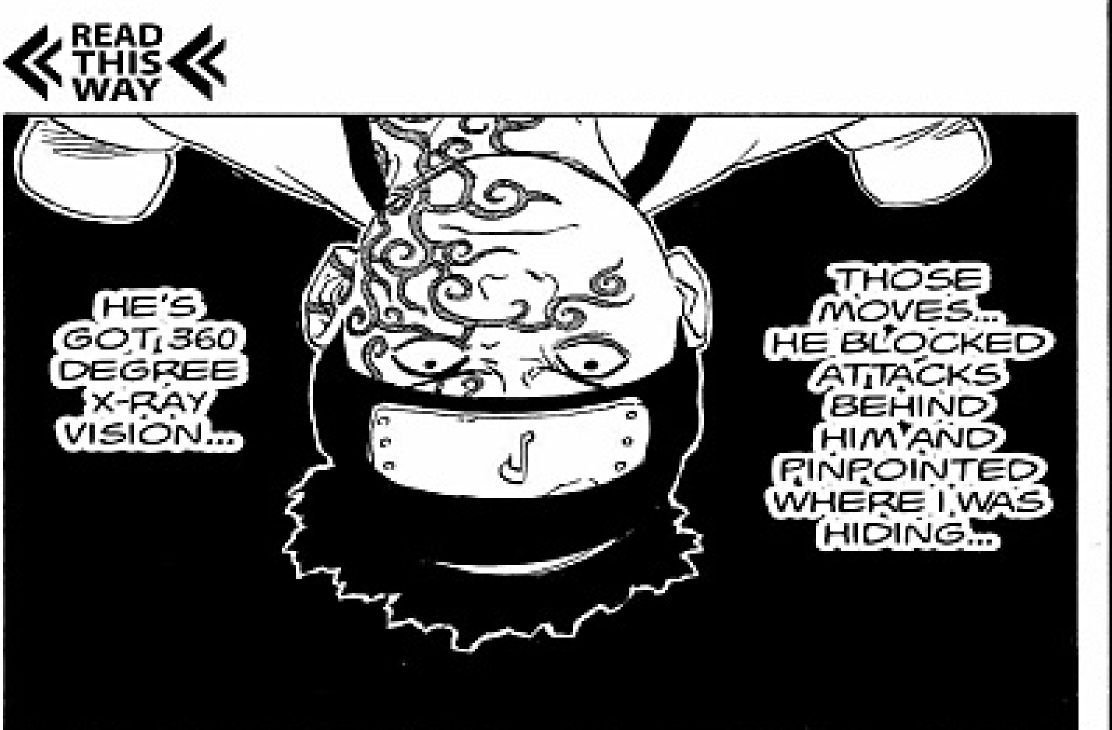


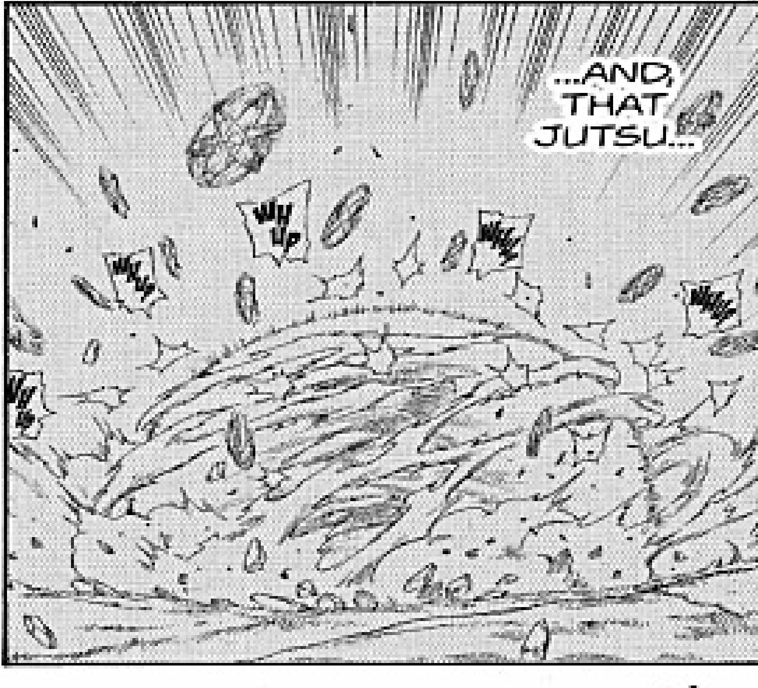




READ THIS WAY









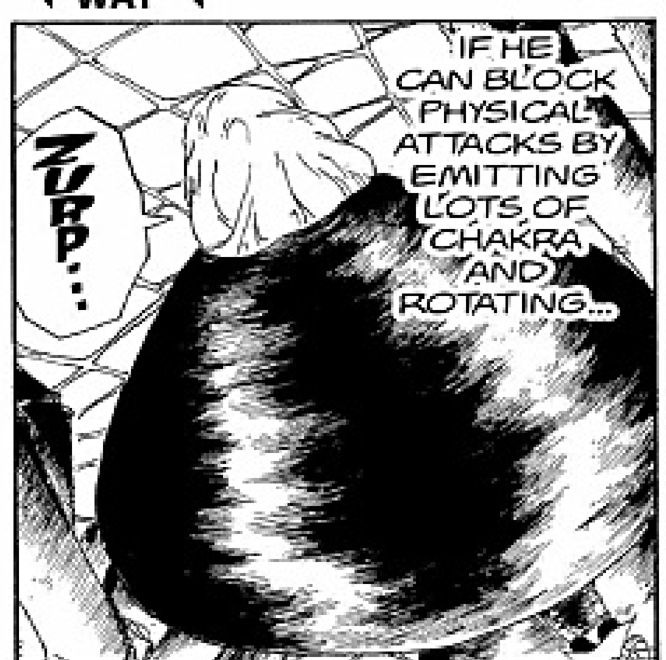



VOMO


READ THIS WAY


!


I'M... GONNA FIGURE OUT A WAY TO TAKE YOU DOWN!


IF HE CAN BLOCK PHYSICAL ATTACKS BY EMITTING LOTS OF CHAKRA AND ROTATING...
ZURP...


ZLOO...
...ALL I NEED TO DO IS STOP THAT ROTATION!

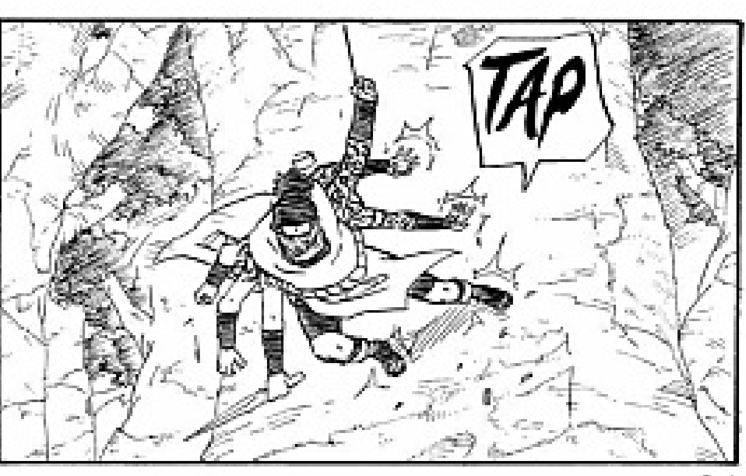

PLINK
HACK


GO!!
VOING
FWOOSH

SHWOOOOOM

!!








8 ROTATION!!
WAP
WAP
WAP
WAP
WAP
WAP
PFFT!!
HEH HEH... HE'S SLOWING DOWN!
!!
...THERE!!


NARUTO
TM

Number 195: Capture...!!




!!


FWISH
DIE!!

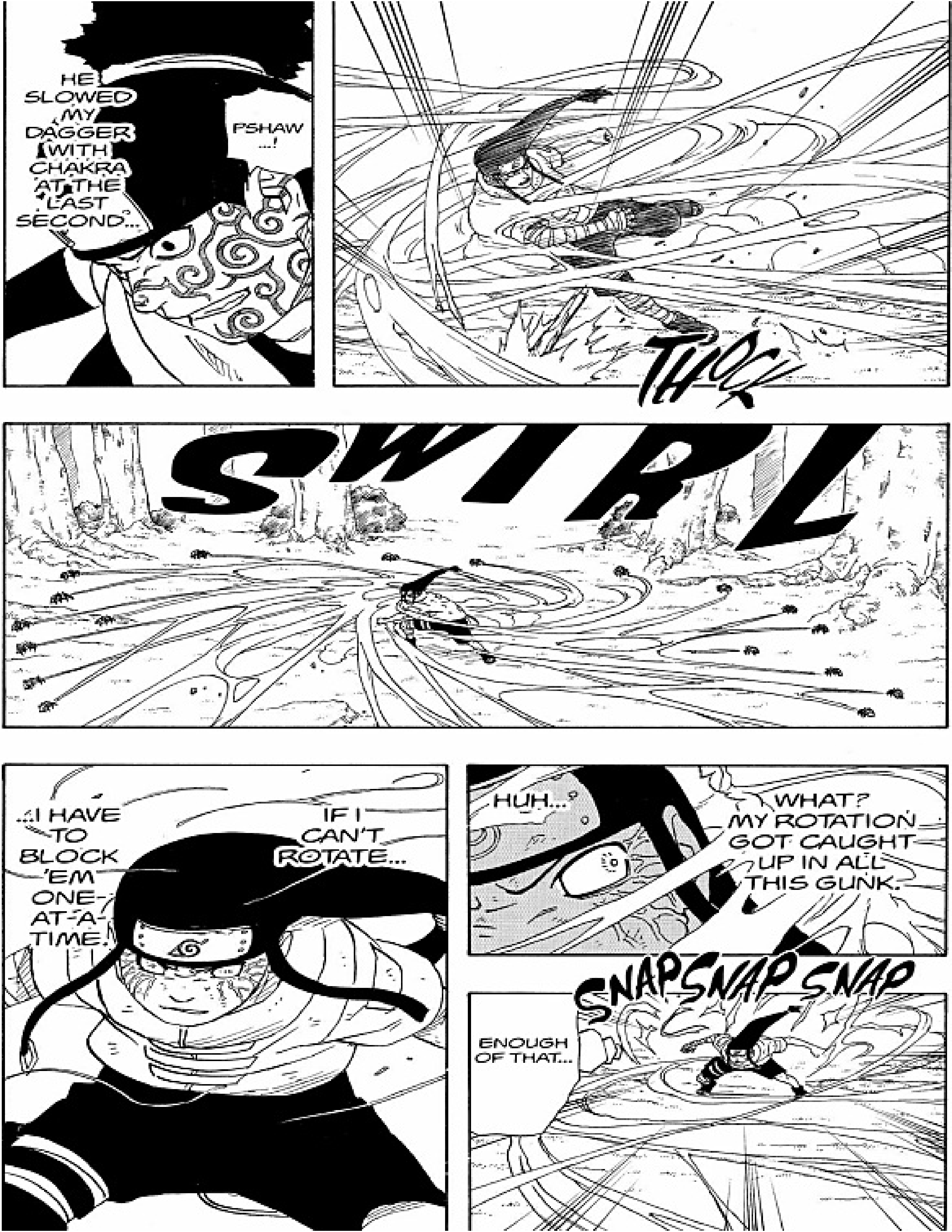




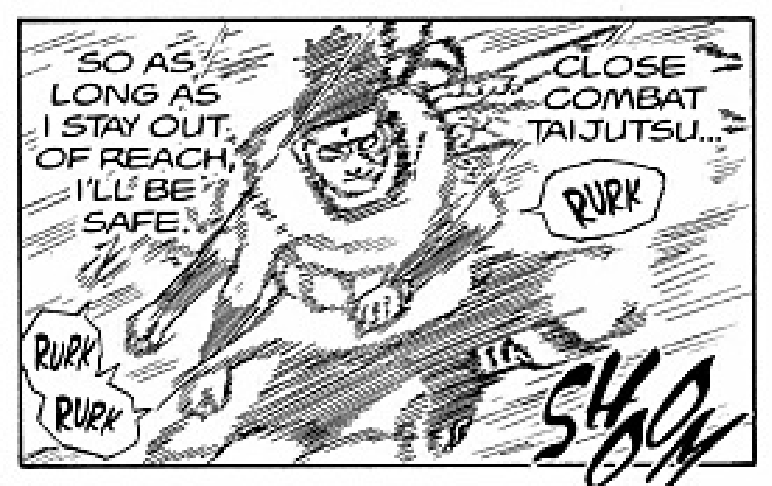

GLINT


SWISH...

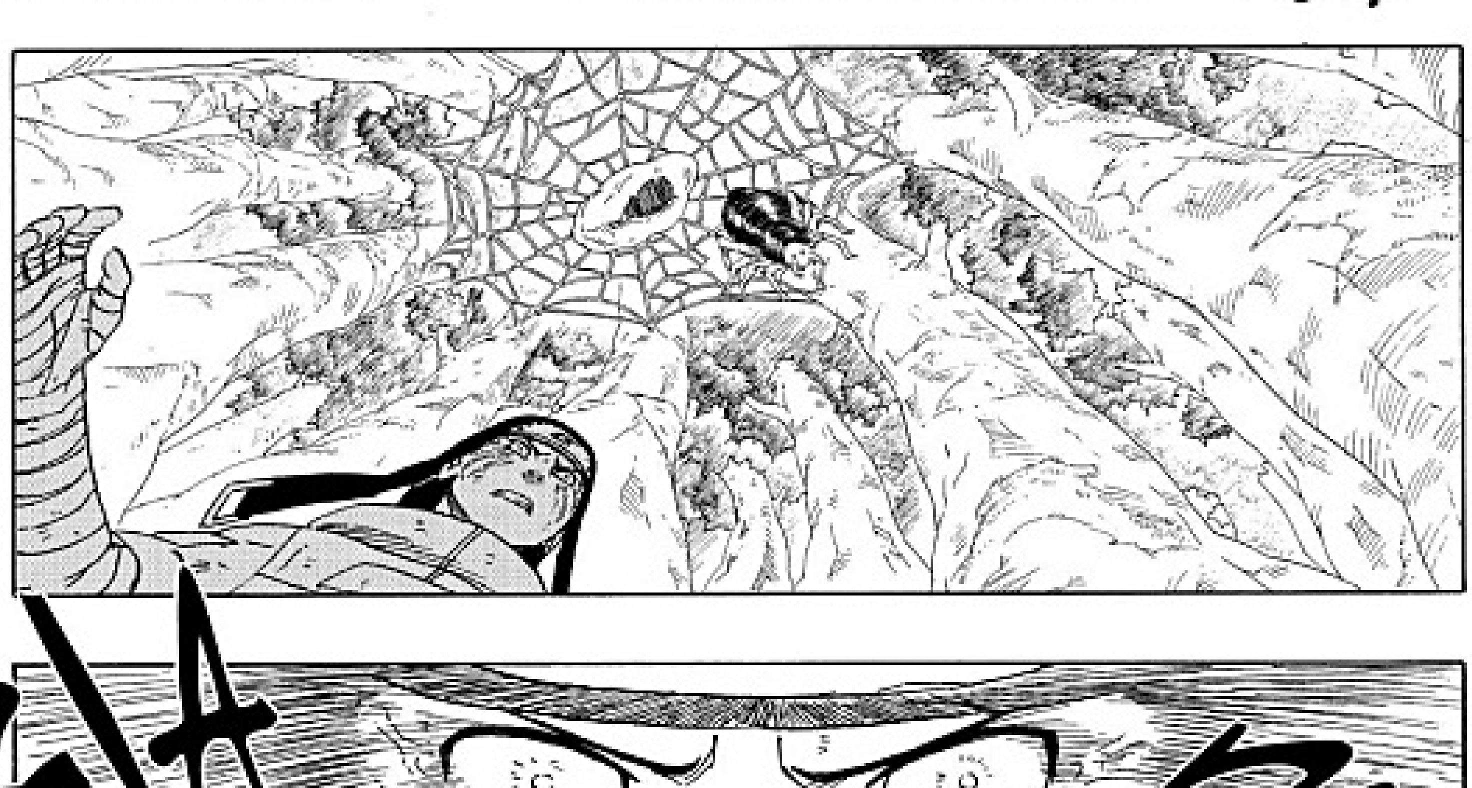



THOCK
PSHAW...!
HE SLOWED MY DAGGER WITH CHAKRA AT THE LAST SECOND...
SWIRL
HUH...
WHAT? MY ROTATION GOT CAUGHT UP IN ALL THIS GUNK.
SNAP SNAP SNAP
ENOUGH OF THAT...
IF I CAN'T ROTATE...
...I HAVE TO BLOCK 'EM ONE-AT-A-TIME!


READ THIS WAY


CLOSE COMBAT TAIJUTSU...
SO AS LONG AS I STAY OUT OF REACH, I'LL BE SAFE.
RURK
RURK
RURK
SHOOM


AND THEN...
...I CAN JUST SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE SHOW... HEH HEH HEH.
SWISH



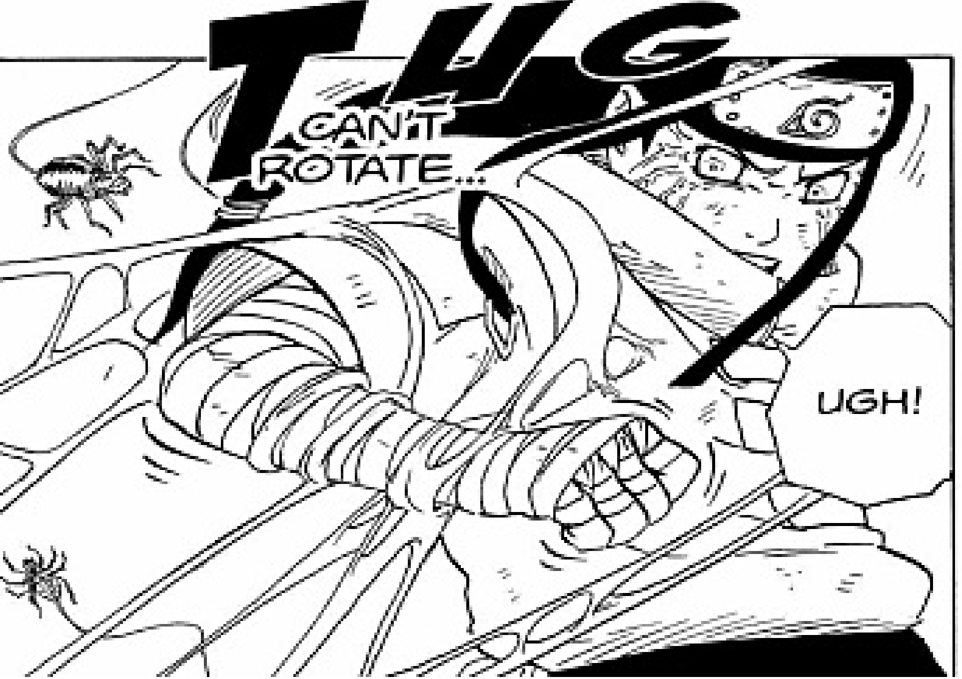

WHOOSH
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
WHOOSH


THUD THUD THUD
THUD THUD THUD THUD
THUD THUD THUD THUD
SIZ
HAH!
ZLE
WHOOSH
SCREECH
WHIP
CLAP

SPLOOOOOSH

!!


WHAPAPAPAPAPAPAPAPAPAPAPWHAP
8 TRIGRAMS 64 PALMS!!

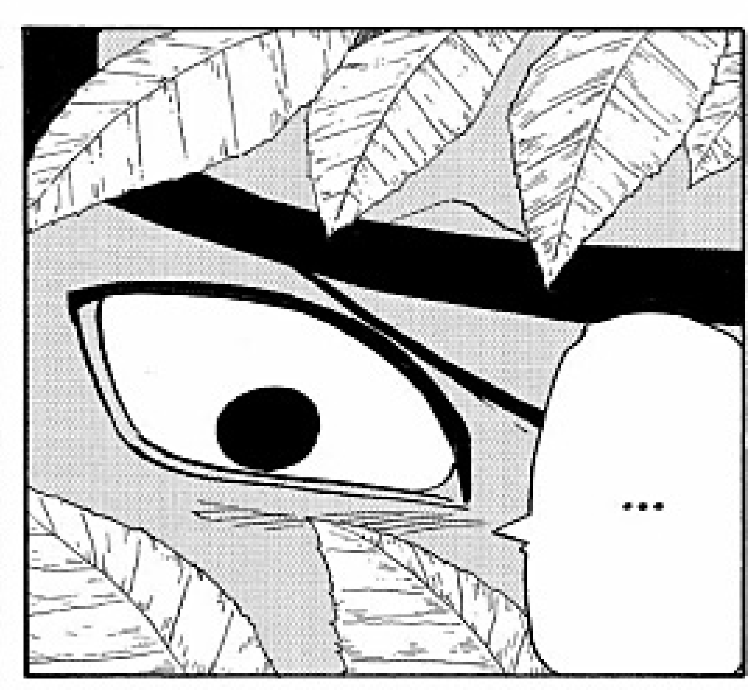

THUG
CAN'T ROTATE...
UGH!

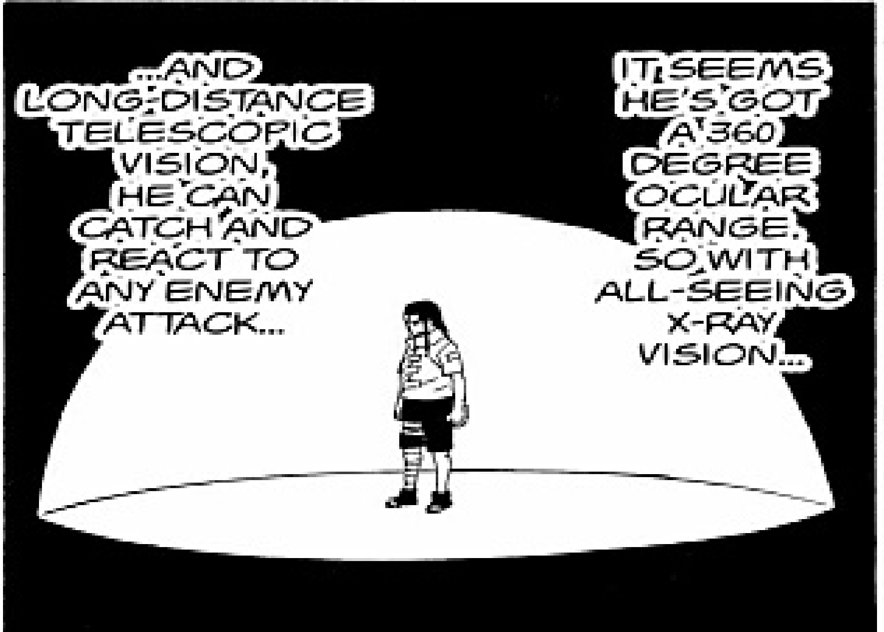

SCREECH


SO MANY!!

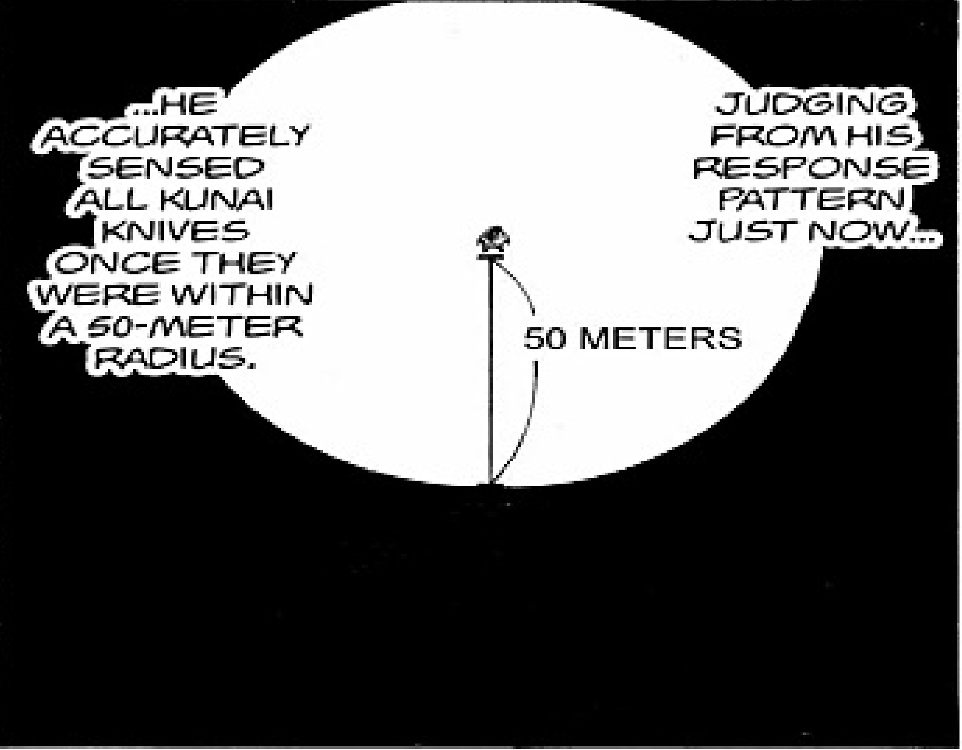

FLICKER
AH!
SWOOP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
THUD
THUD
THUD
OW...!
...!


READ THIS WAY

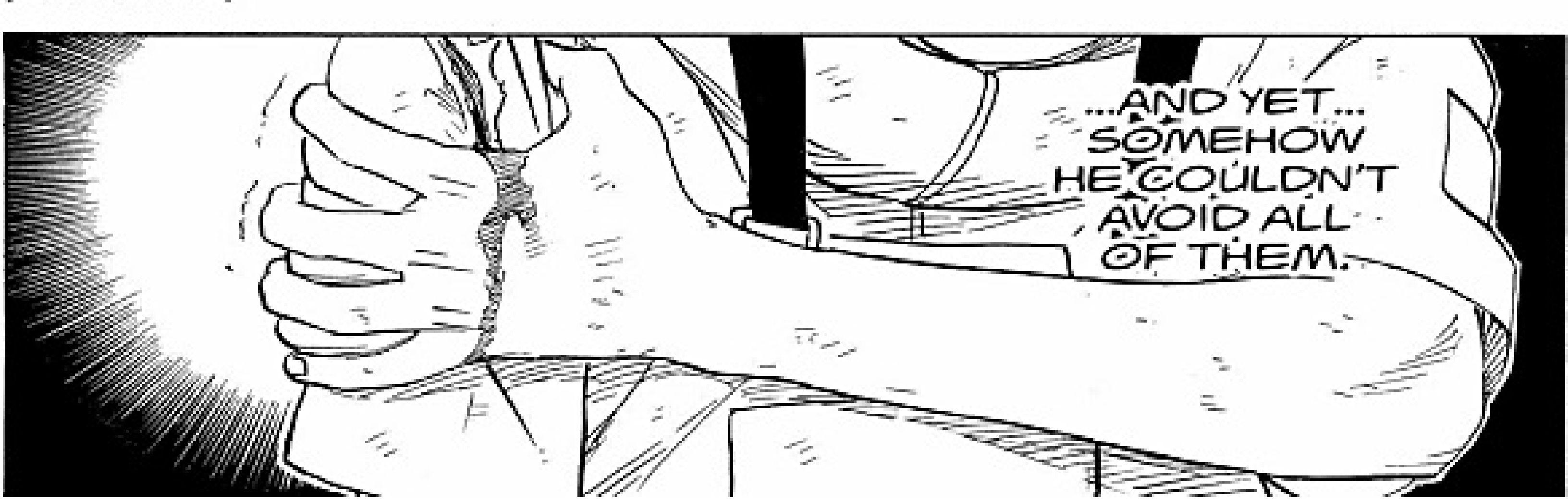

...


IT SEEMS HE'S GOT A 360 DEGREE OCULAR RANGE. SO WITH ALL-SEEING X-RAY VISION...
...AND LONG-DISTANCE TELESCOPIC VISION, HE CAN CATCH AND REACT TO ANY ENEMY ATTACK...


...EVEN WITHOUT 360 DEGREE PERCEPTION, HIS ACTUAL FIELD OF VISION IS STILL FEARSOME.

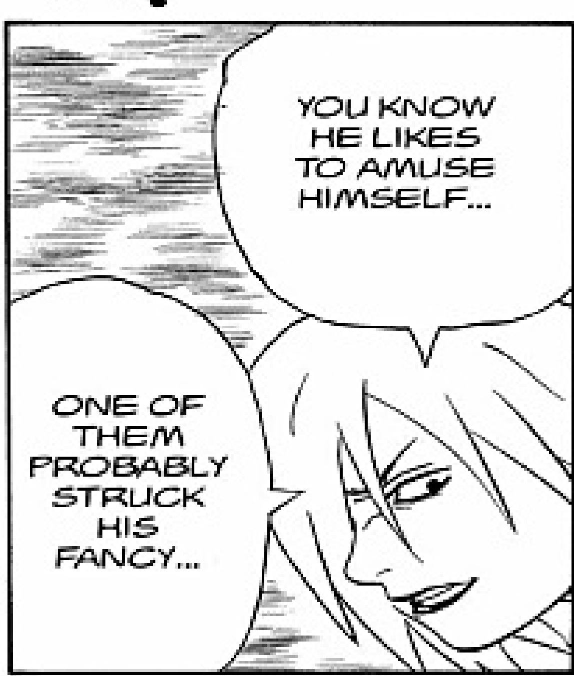

JUDGING FROM HIS RESPONSE PATTERN JUST NOW...
...HE ACCURATELY SENSED ALL KUNAI KNIVES ONCE THEY WERE WITHIN A 50-METER RADIUS.
50 METERS

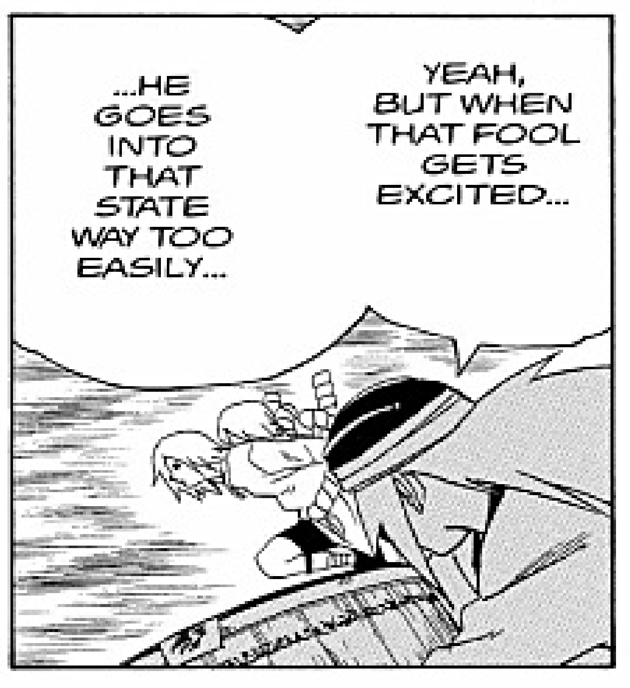
(54.7 YARDS)


...AND YET... SOMEHOW HE COULDN'T AVOID ALL OF THEM.

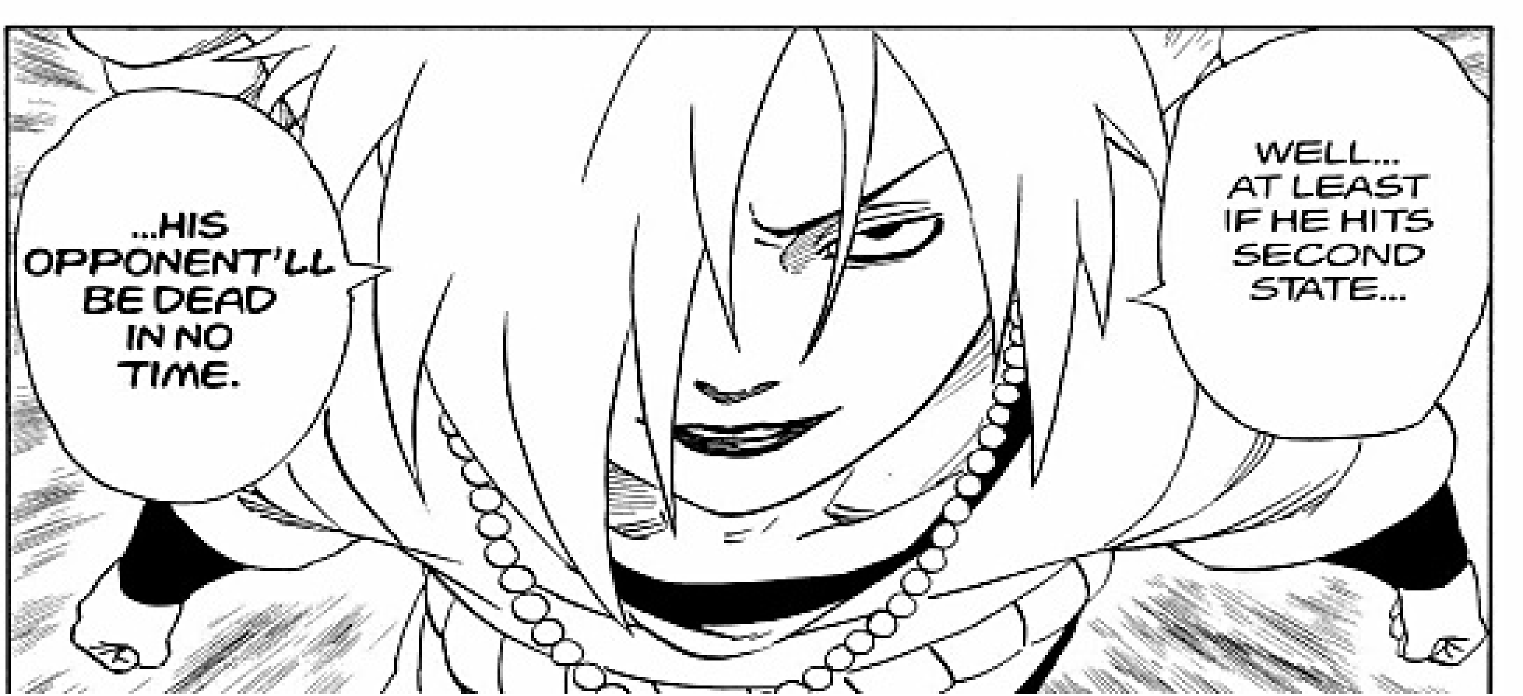

SHOOM
SHOOM


YEESH... NEVER MIND THAT FATSO JIROBO, NOW WHAT'S KIDOMARU UP TO?!
THAT LOSER...

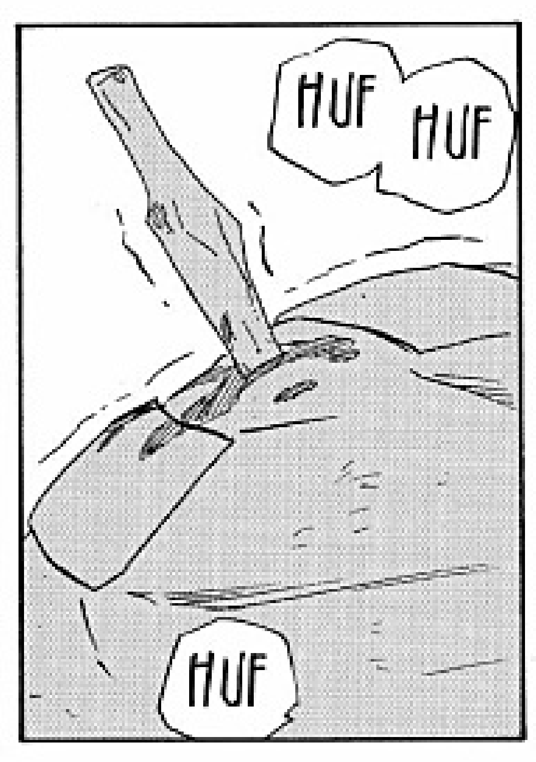

YOU KNOW HE LIKES TO AMUSE HIMSELF...
ONE OF THEM PROBABLY STRUCK HIS FANCY...

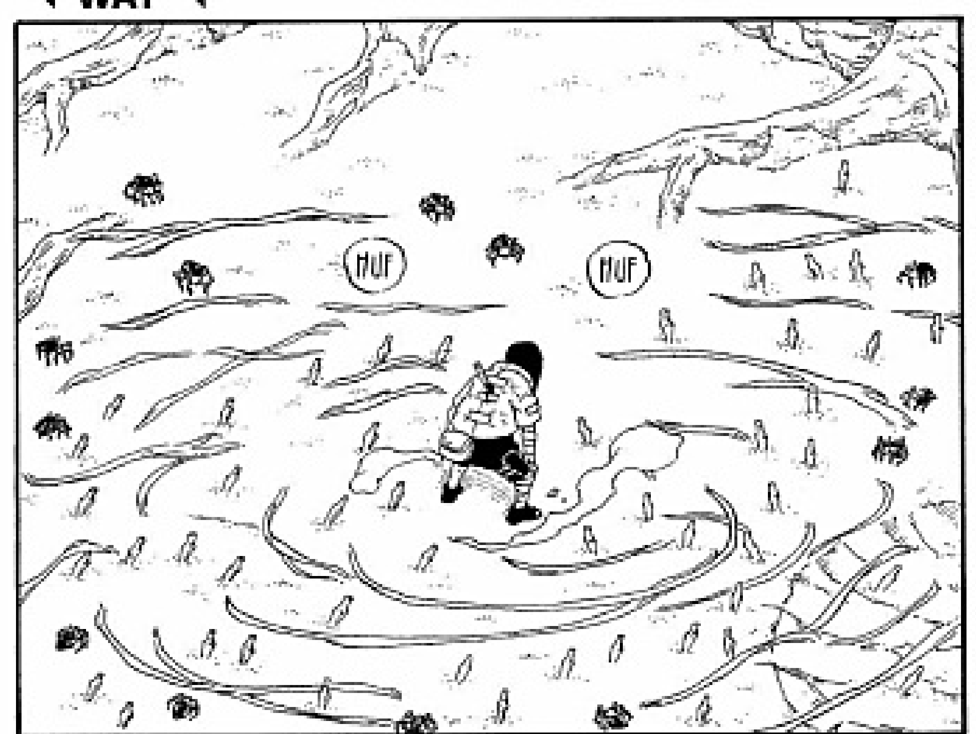

YEAH, BUT WHEN THAT FOOL GETS EXCITED...
...HE GOES INTO THAT STATE WAY TOO EASILY...

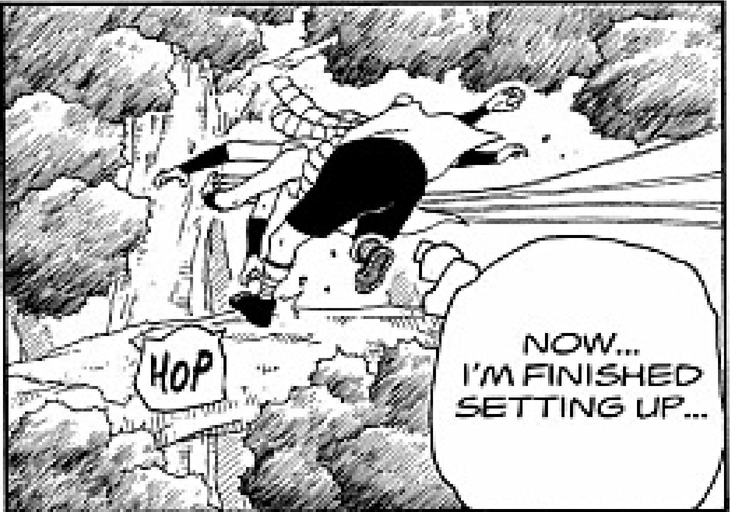

...


WELL... AT LEAST IF HE HITS SECOND STATE...
...HIS OPPONENT'LL BE DEAD IN NO TIME.


READ
THIS
WAY


HUF
HUF
HUF


HUF
HUF

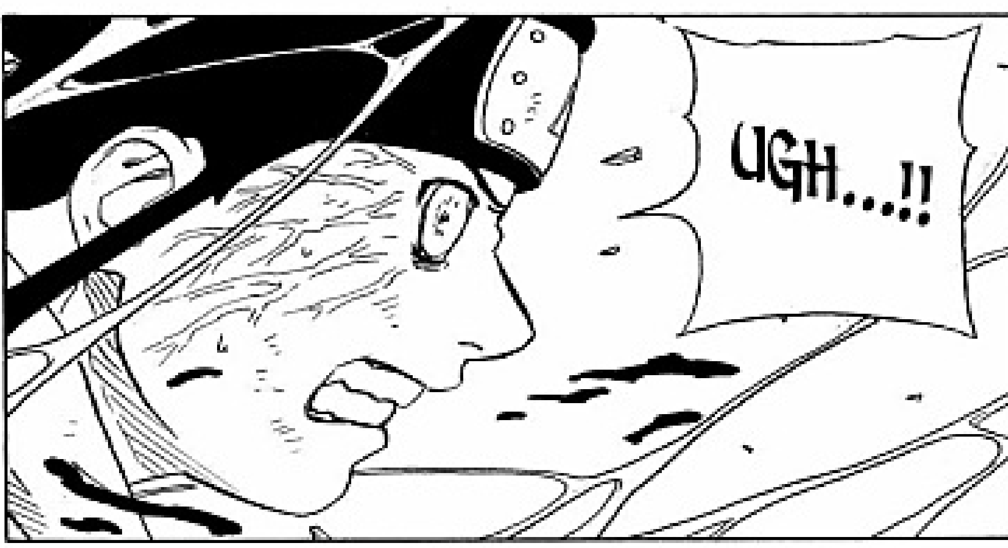

HOP
NOW... I'M FINISHED SETTING UP...

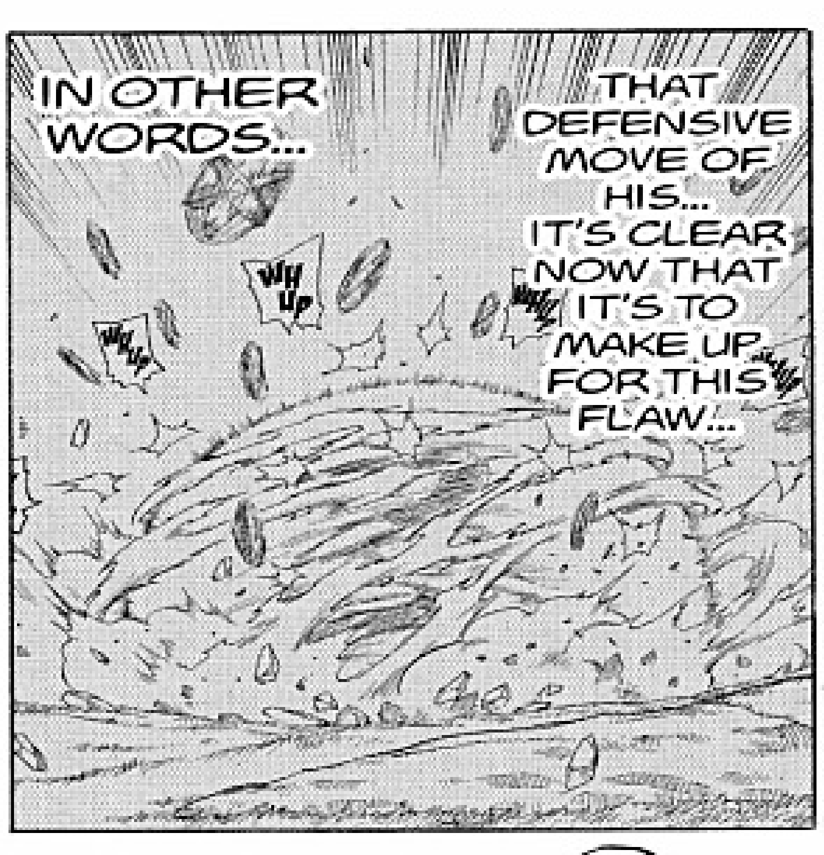

THEY'RE EVEN MORE THIS NEXT ROUND... WHATCHA GONNA DO?
SHOOSH


WHOOOOSH

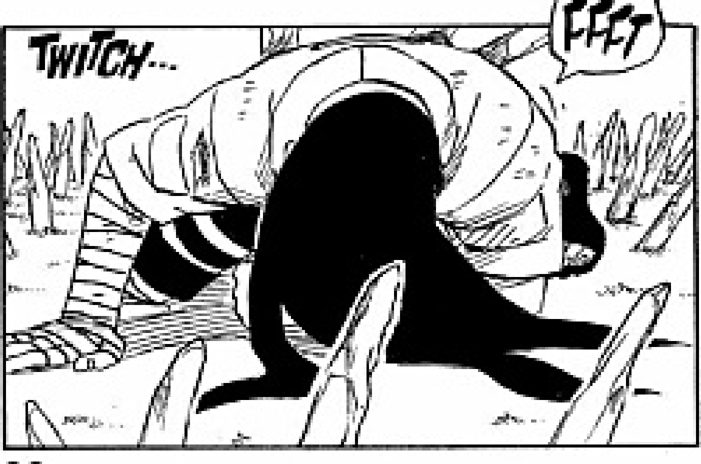

WHAM WHAM WHAM WHAM WHAM WHAM
SLASH!
SLAP
JAB JAB
TWO, THIS TIME...







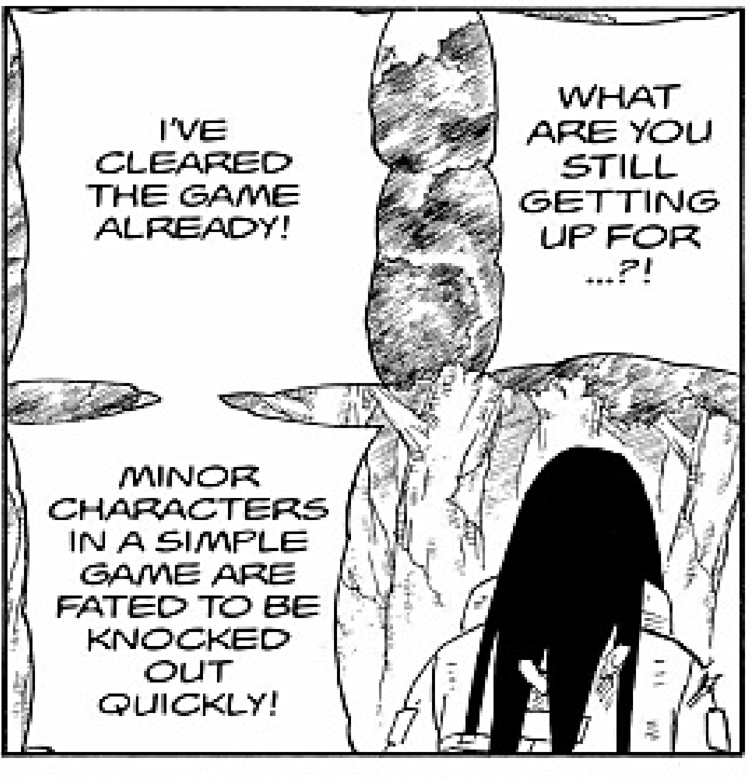




...HIS OCULAR NINJUTSU ISN'T PERFECT...!

HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF





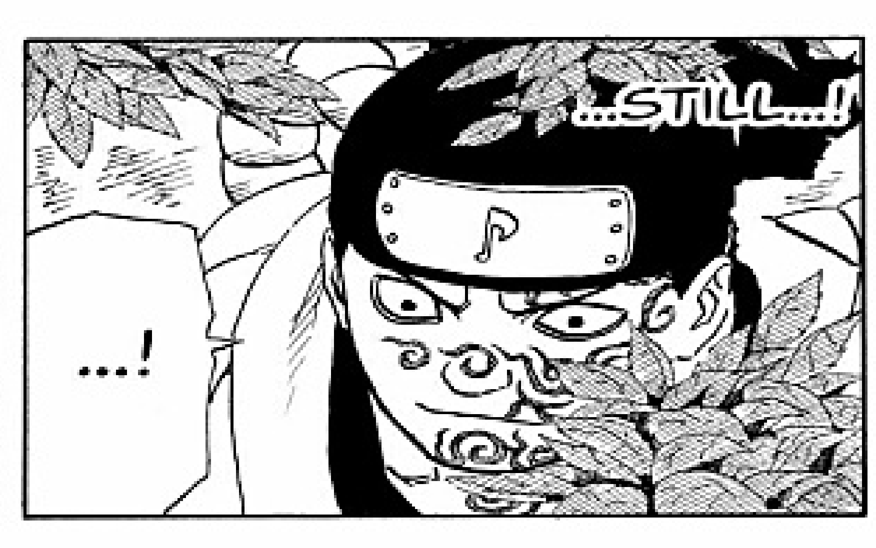





READ THIS WAY
THIS IS IT!
SWOOP
!
GENTLE FIST!!
FOOM
BLOP
BLOP
BLOP
BOOOM!!

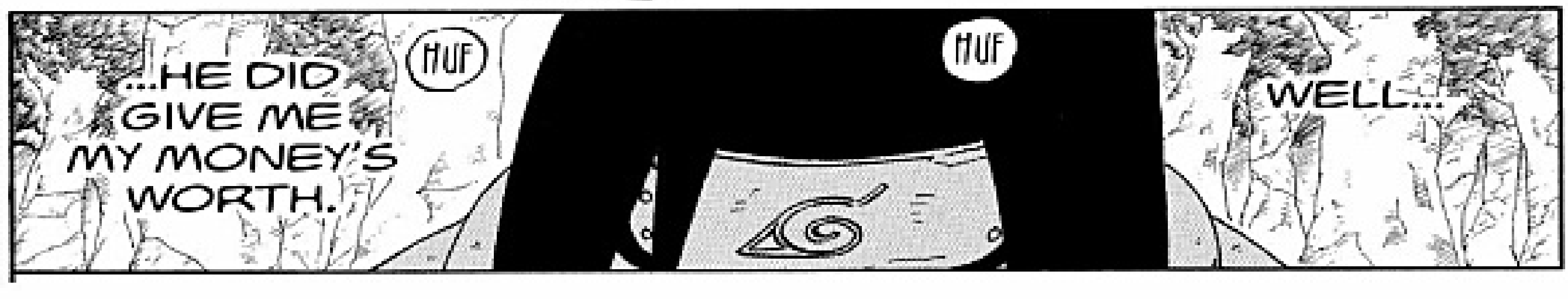

!!
BOOF
SHAAAAAAAAAAA
TWITCH...
CHK


READ
THIS
WAY

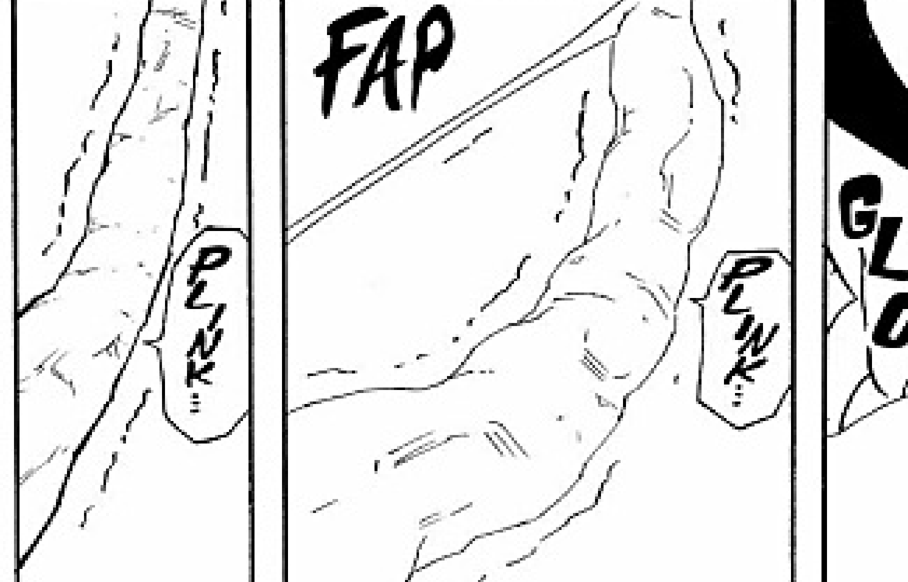

...STILL...!
...!


HEH...
I SEE.
FLARE


HE JUST AVOIDED FATAL BLOWS... AND SINCE THEY'RE RELEASED FROM OVER 50 METERS AWAY, THEY DON'T RETAIN ENOUGH FORCE...
FWOOSH


WELL...
HUF
HUF
...HE DID GIVE ME MY MONEY'S WORTH.


SO IN THANKS...
SLIP
GLOOP


FAP
PLINK...
PLINK...


STRIKING ACCURACY: 100%.
GRRR
DESTRUCTIVE POWER: MAXIMUM!
FWIP
PCH
DIE!!

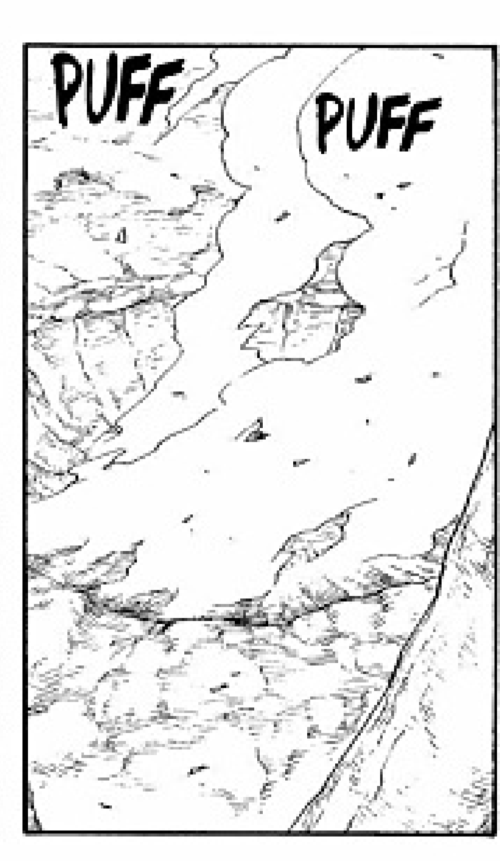

REEEE...

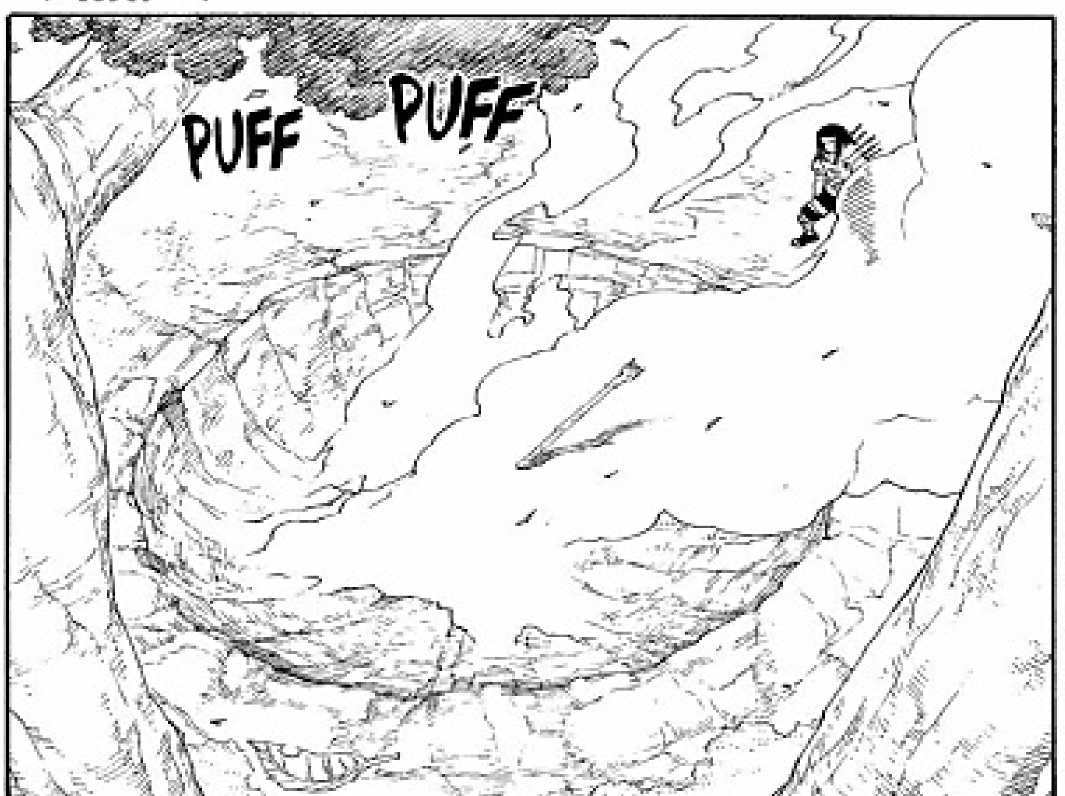

NARUTO
TM


Number 196: The Strongest Enemy!!

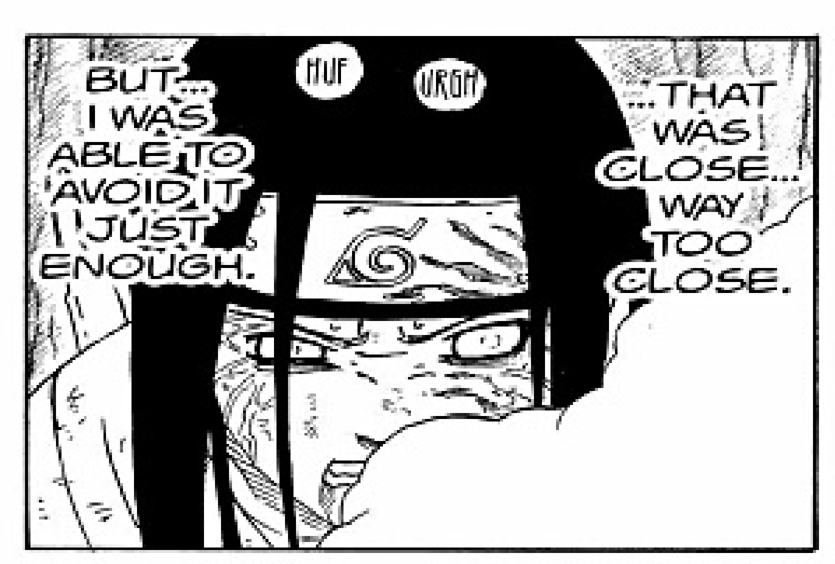

SWISH
VOOOOOSH
KABOOM
GAME OVER...!


READ THIS WAY


PUFF
PUFF


PUFF
PUFF


!
WHA...?!

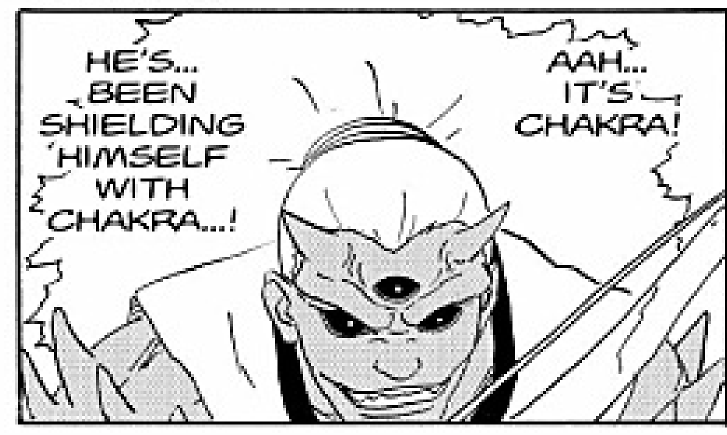

URGH
HUF
...THAT WAS CLOSE... WAY TOO CLOSE.
BUT... I WAS ABLE TO AVOID IT JUST ENOUGH.


JUST... AS I THOUGHT...
URGH
...HE'S CAUGHT ON TO THE SECRET OF THE BYAKUGAN.
URGH

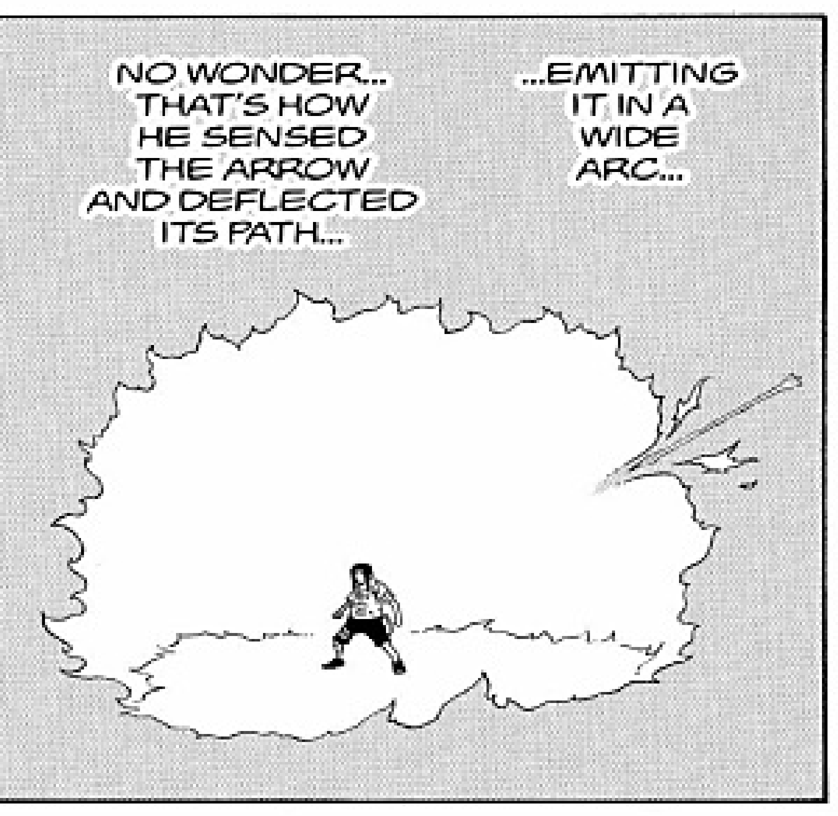

...!
WHAT'S GOING ON? HOW DID HE...?!


ZIZZLE...
HOW DID I MISS BY 15 CENTIMETERS?!
DRIP
DRIP
GRRR!!


READ
THIS
WAY

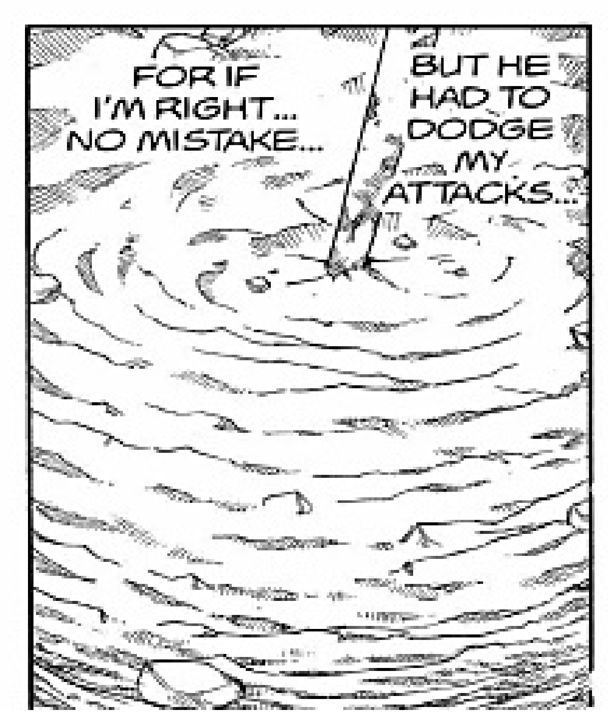

AAH... IT'S CHAKRA!
HE'S... BEEN SHIELDING HIMSELF WITH CHAKRA...!


CHUNK
UGH...


...EMITTING IT IN A WIDE ARC...
NO WONDER... THAT'S HOW HE SENSED THE ARROW AND DEFLECTED ITS PATH...

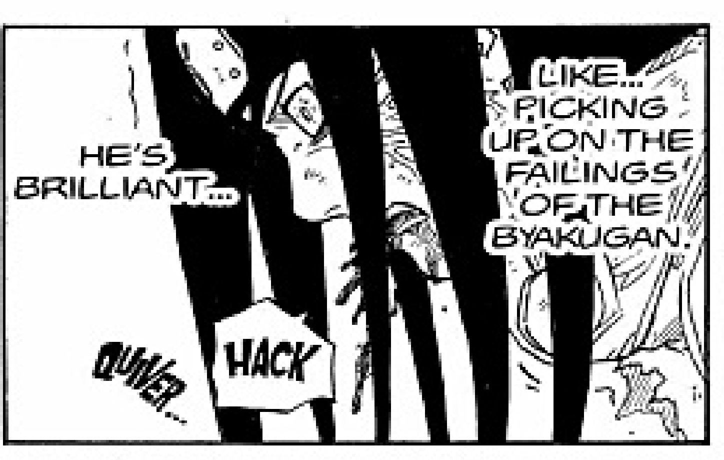

...
SNEER


...HEH HEH... HE'S GOTTA BE HURTIN' FROM EXPENDING THAT MUCH CHAKRA...


BUT HE HAD TO DODGE MY ATTACKS...
FOR IF I'M RIGHT... NO MISTAKE...

...HE DIDN'T SEE THAT ARROW WITH HIS EYES!!

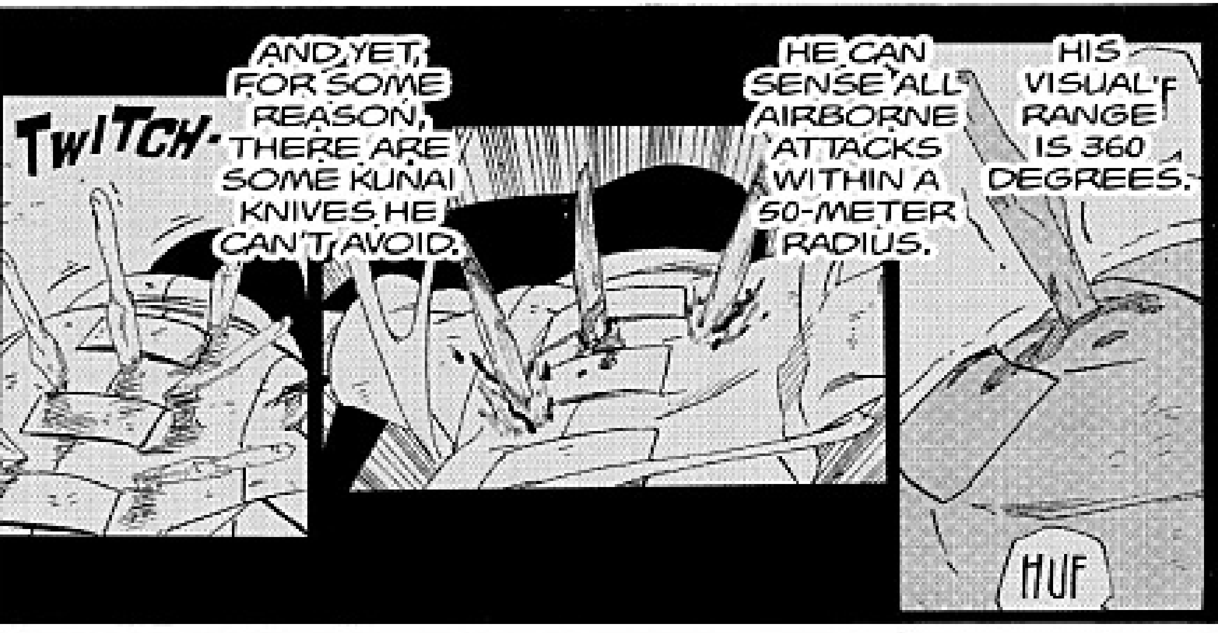




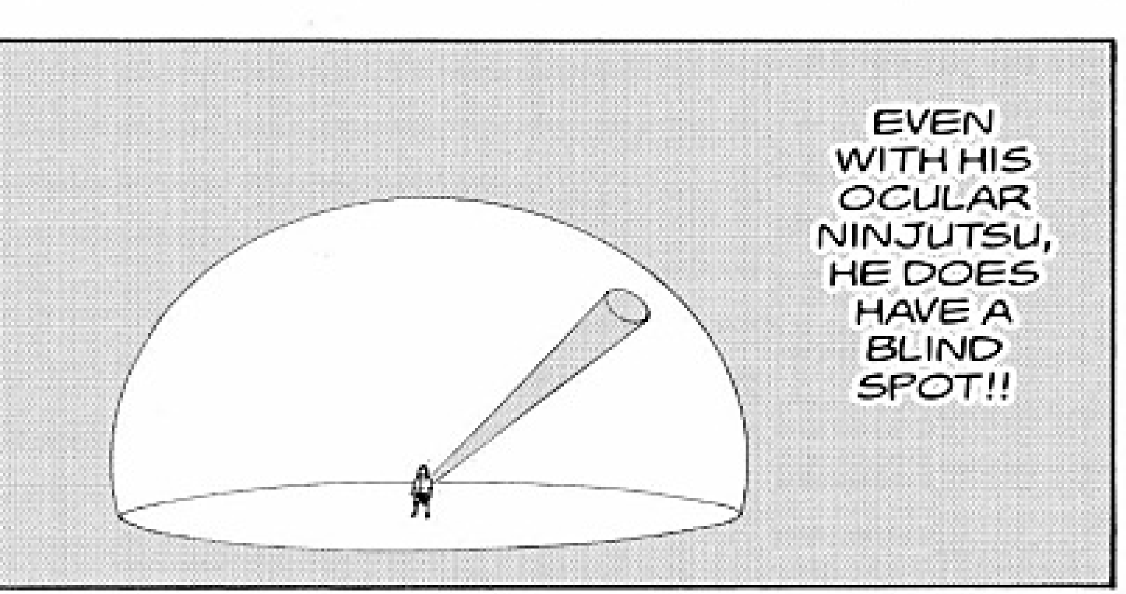


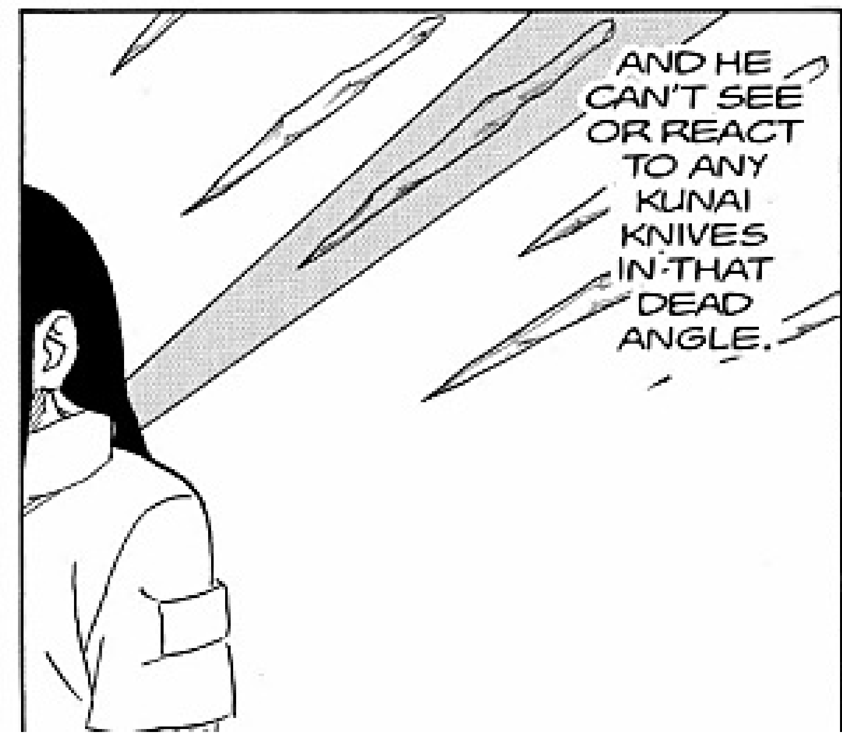

READ THIS WAY

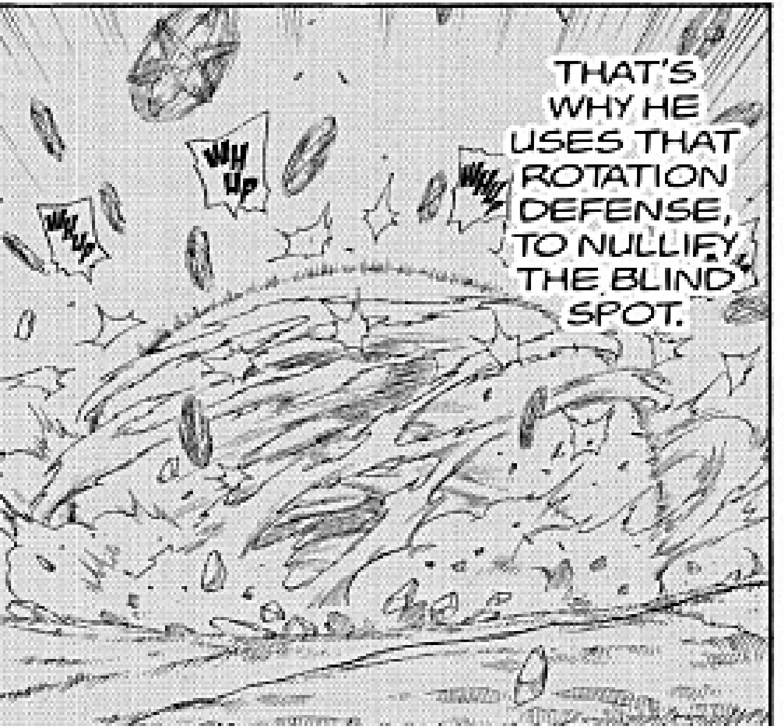

...
HUMPH...


HIS VISUAL RANGE IS 360 DEGREES.
HE CAN SENSE ALL AIRBORNE ATTACKS WITHIN A 50-METER RADIUS.
AND YET, FOR SOME REASON, THERE ARE SOME KUNAI KNIVES HE CAN'T AVOID.
TWITCH
HUF

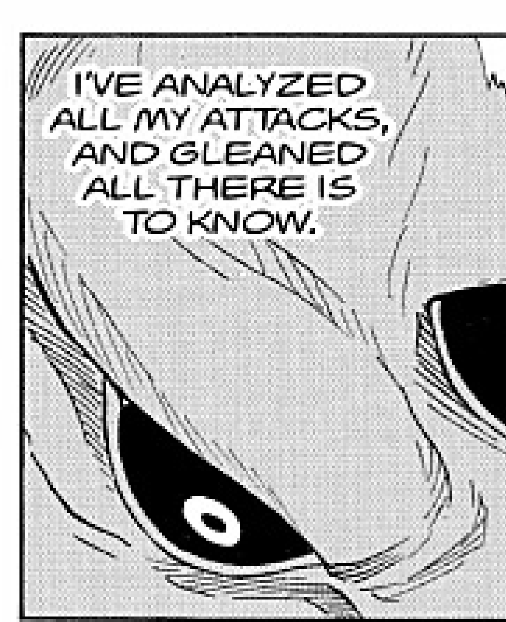
SO WHY CAN'T HE DODGE THEM?
BECAUSE HE CAN'T SEE THEM!


EVEN WITH HIS OCULAR NINJUTSU, HE DOES HAVE A BLIND SPOT!!

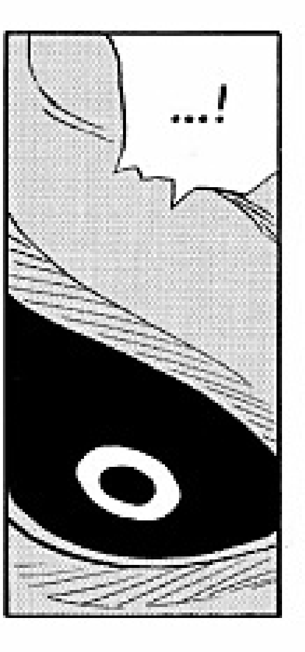

AND HE CAN'T SEE OR REACT TO ANY KUNAI KNIVES IN THAT DEAD ANGLE.


THAT'S WHY HE USES THAT ROTATION DEFENSE, TO NULLIFY THE BLIND SPOT.
WHUP

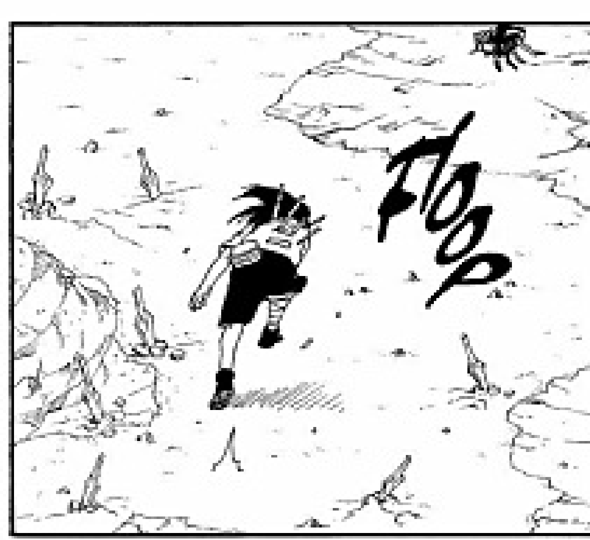
CREAK...

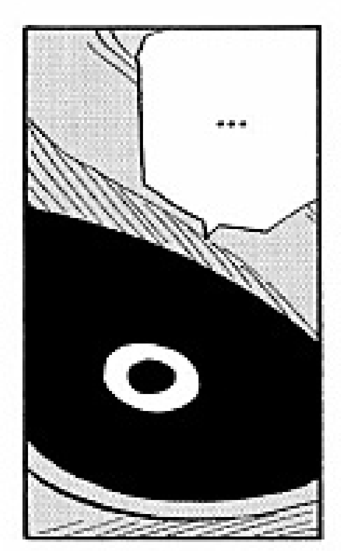

I'VE ANALYZED ALL MY ATTACKS, AND GLEANED ALL THERE IS TO KNOW.


HIS DEAD ANGLE STARTS AT THE LEVEL OF HIS FIRST THORACIC VERTEBRA... AND SPREADS OUTWARD AS A NARROW CONE!!


...!









HEH HEH... FOR SURE, IF HE STAYS ON THE MOVE, HIS BLIND SPOT MOVES AROUND AND MAKES IT HARDER TO HIT WITH AN ARROW.






CREAK
THE GENTLE FIST IS USELESS IF YOU'RE NOT RIGHT NEXT TO YOUR OPPONENT.
AND I DON'T THINK YOU'RE IN ANY SHAPE TO GET NEAR ME NOW.


KRIK
SO ALL YOU CAN DO... IS RUN.
BUT EITHER WAY, YOU'RE GONNA DIE!

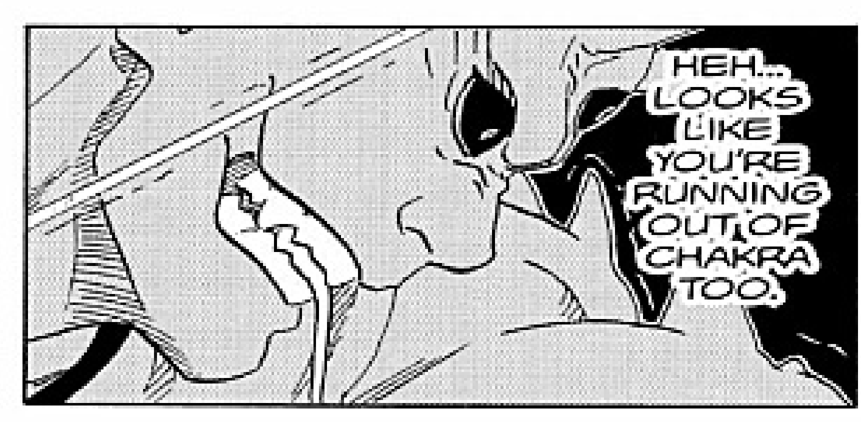

HACK
TROT

KRIK...
KRIK...

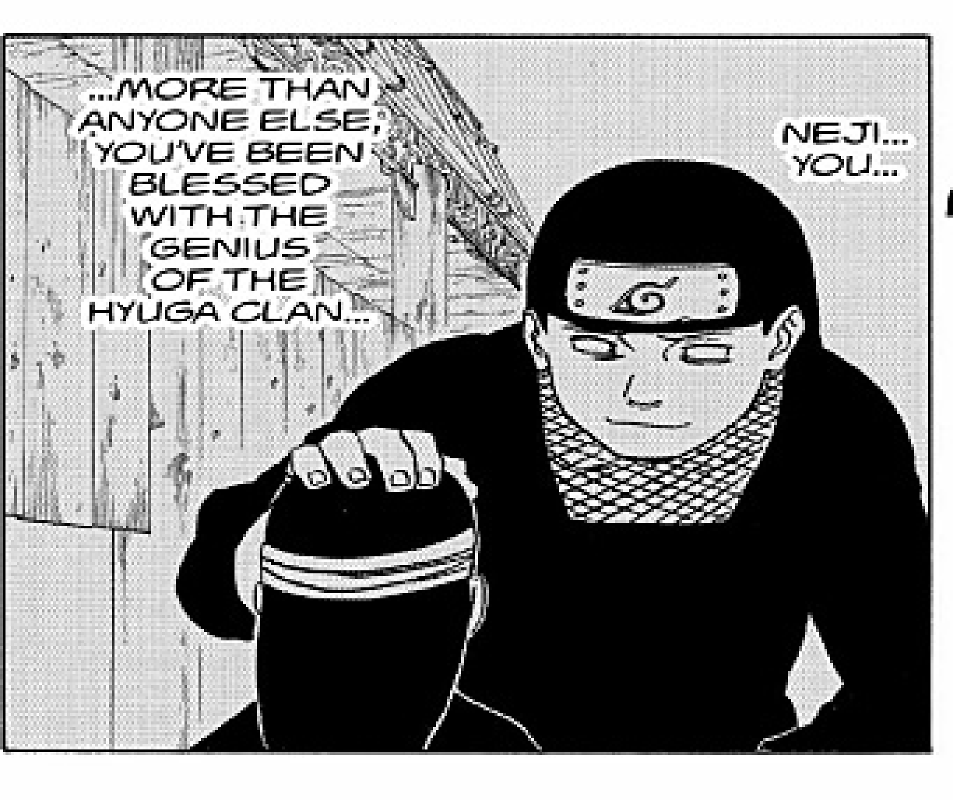

READ THIS WAY

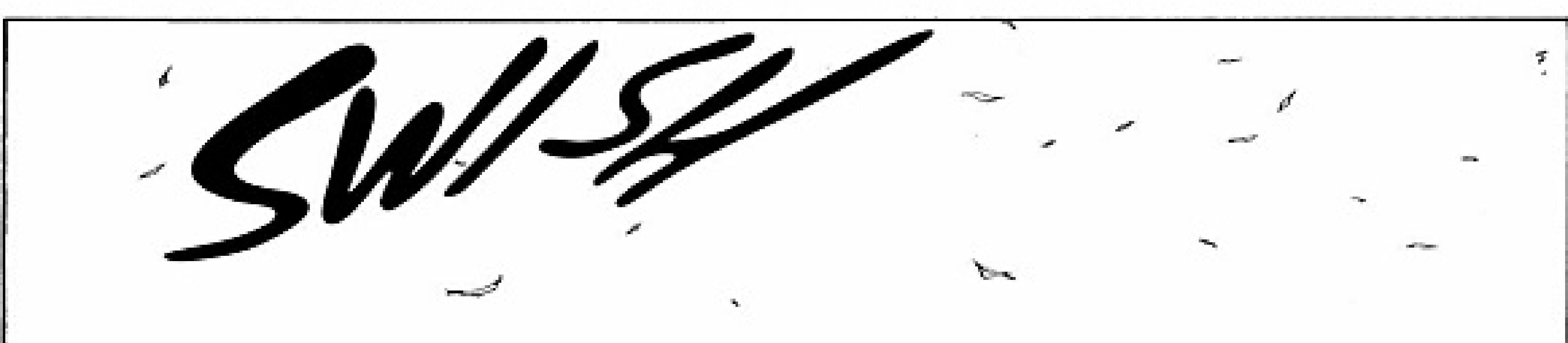

HUF
CRUNCH
UNGH
UGH!


MINOR CHARACTERS IN A SIMPLE GAME ARE FATED TO BE KNOCKED OUT QUICKLY!
UNH
HUF


HEH... LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE RUNNING OUT OF CHAKRA TOO.

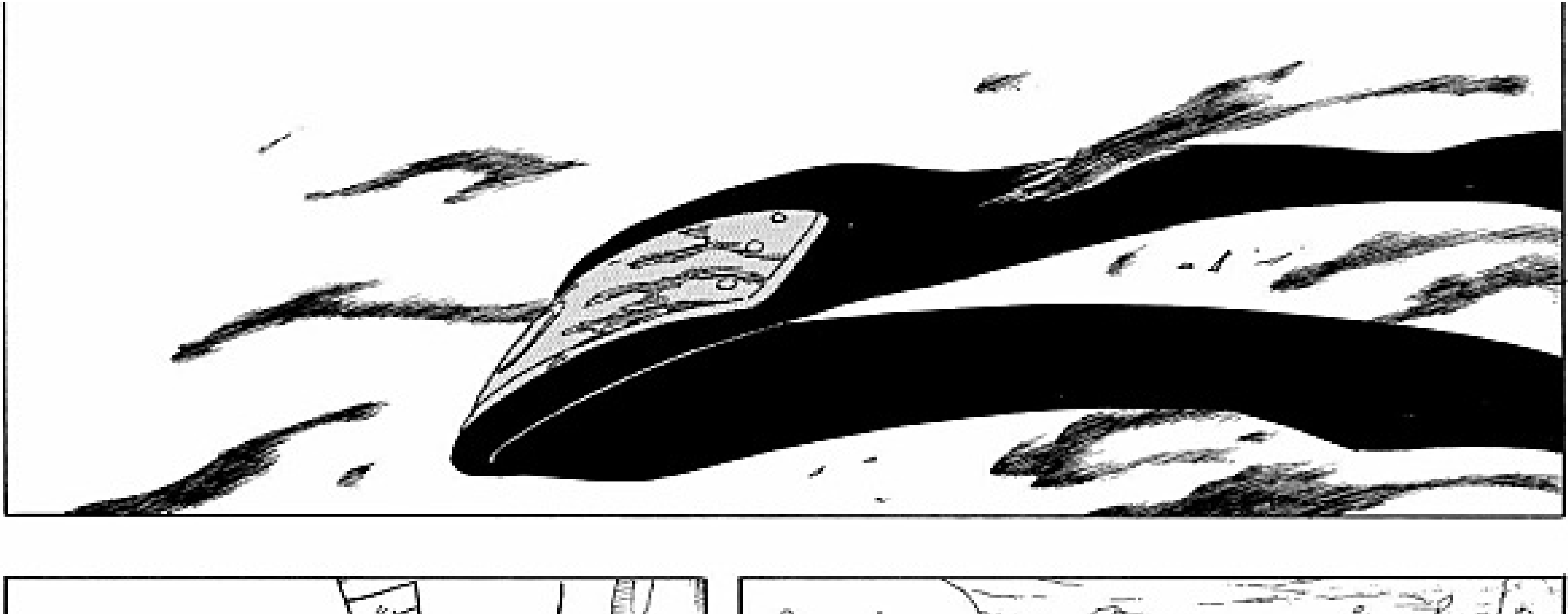

TWANG

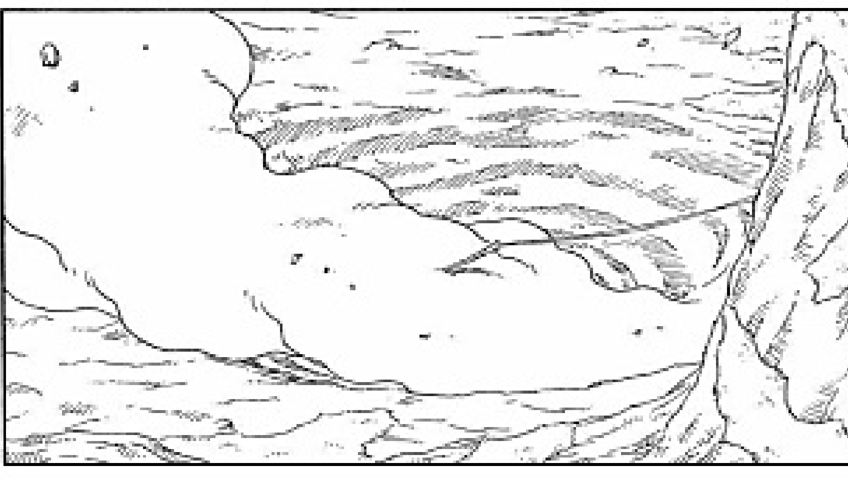

NEJI... YOU...
...MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE, YOU'VE BEEN BLESSED WITH THE GENIUS OF THE HYUGA CLAN...

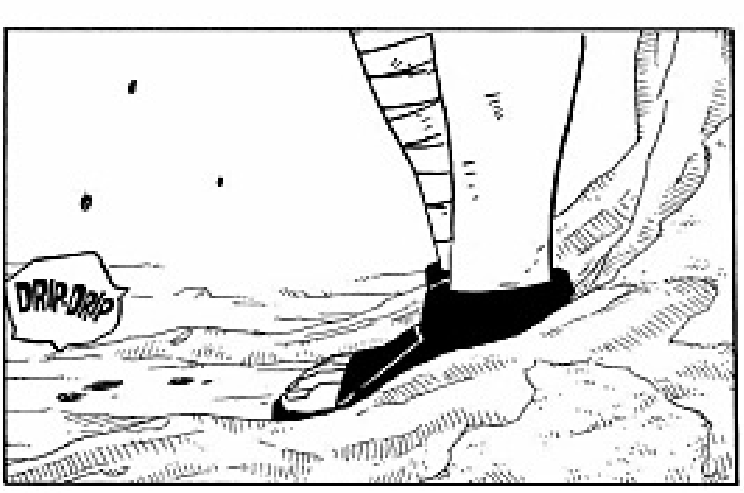

SWISH



WOOSH
ARC
WOSH
CRACK
SWA



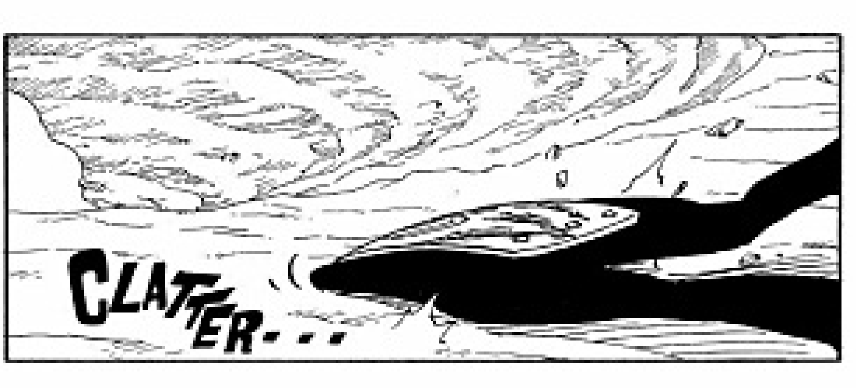




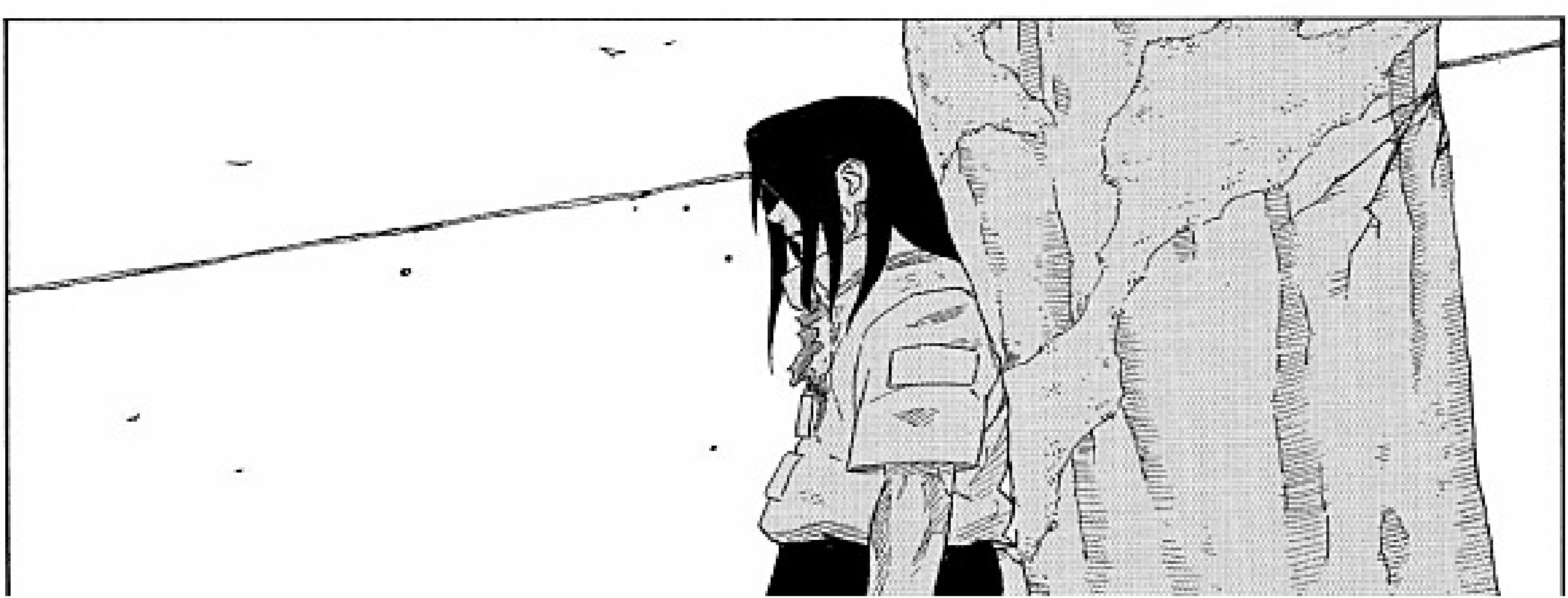
DRIP-DRIP



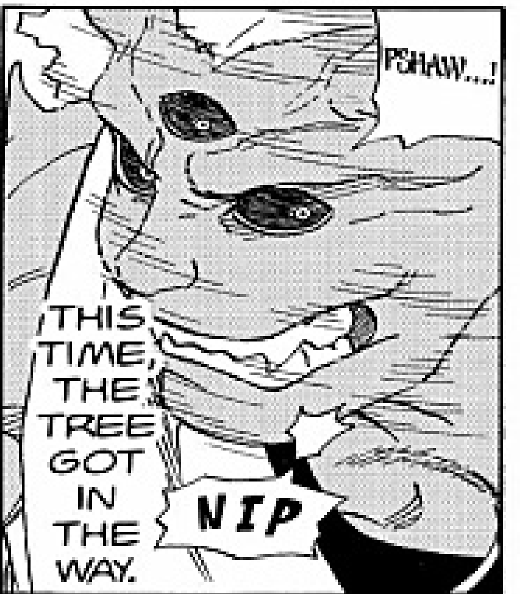
DRIP



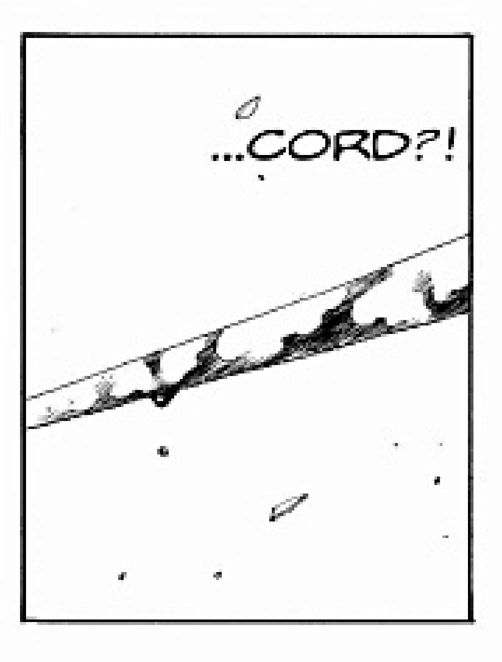
CLATTER...

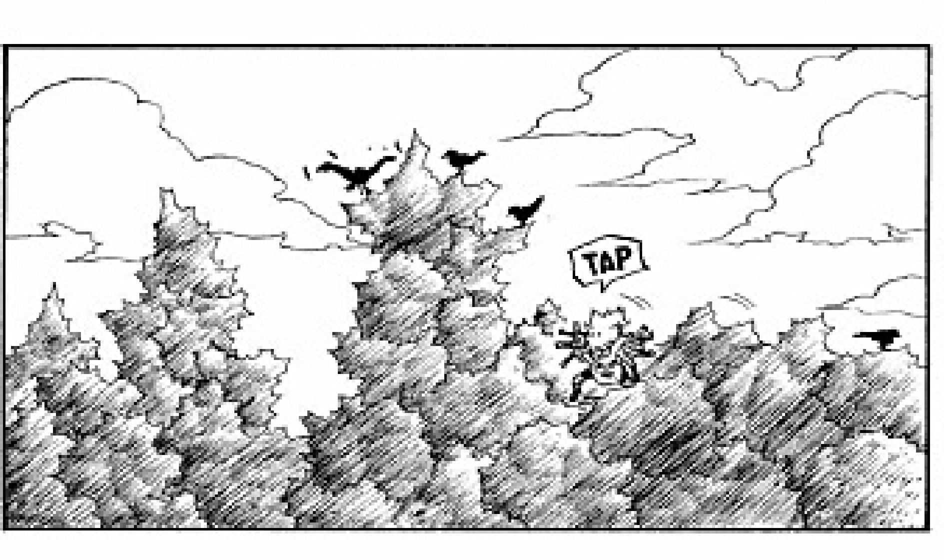


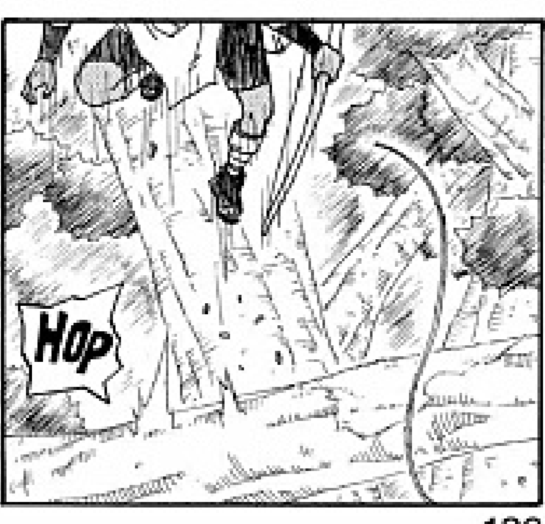
(THE SYMBOL PICTURED ABOVE, CALLED A MANJI, IS TRADITIONAL IN BUDDHIST IMAGERY -ED.)



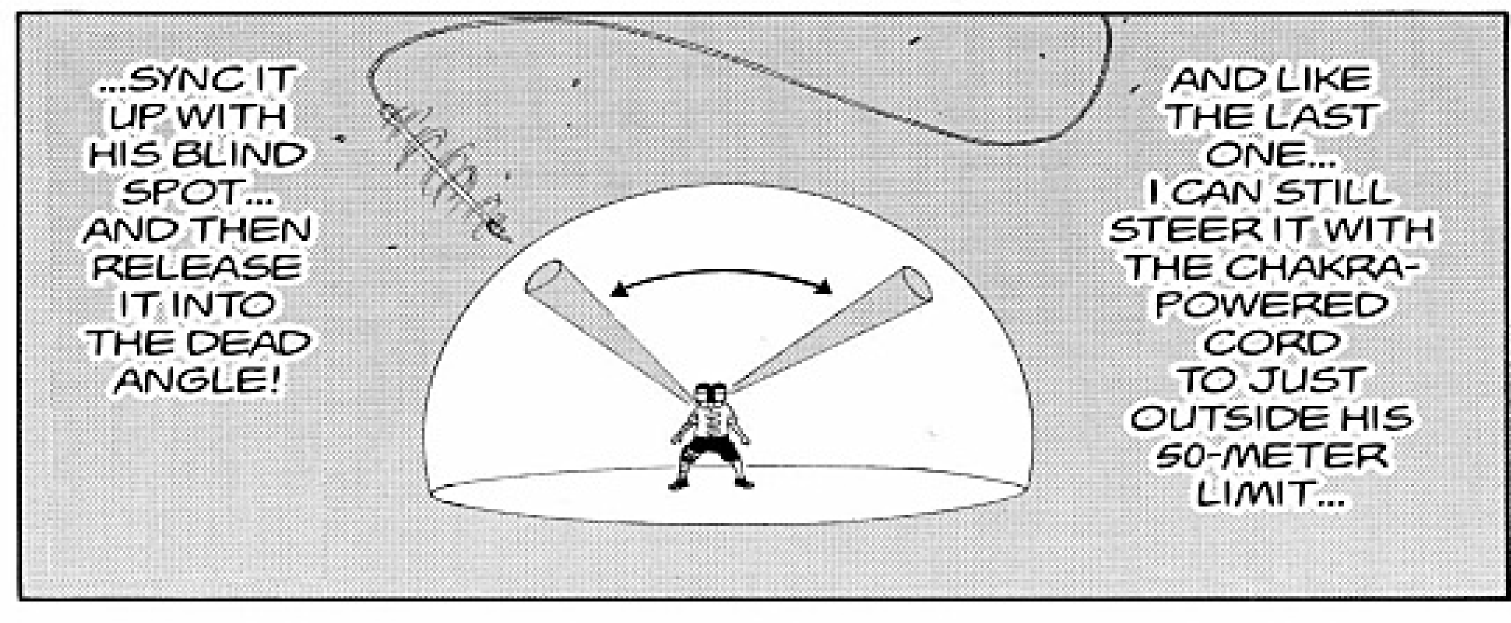








WELL THEN, NEXT...!
GLOOP...
I'LL ADD SPIN... SO THAT EVEN IF IT HITS A TREE, IT CAN BORE THROUGH WITHOUT DEFLECTION.
PLINK

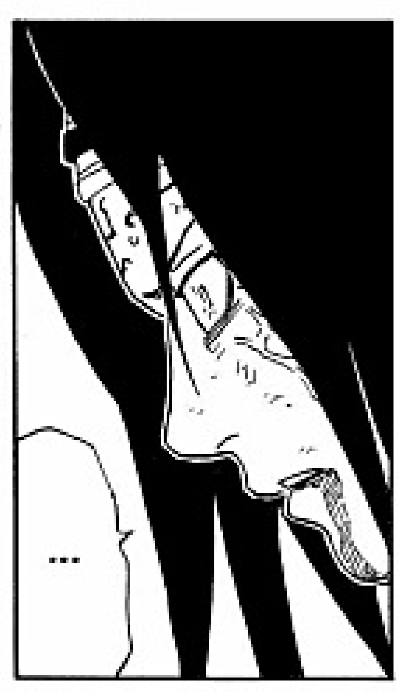




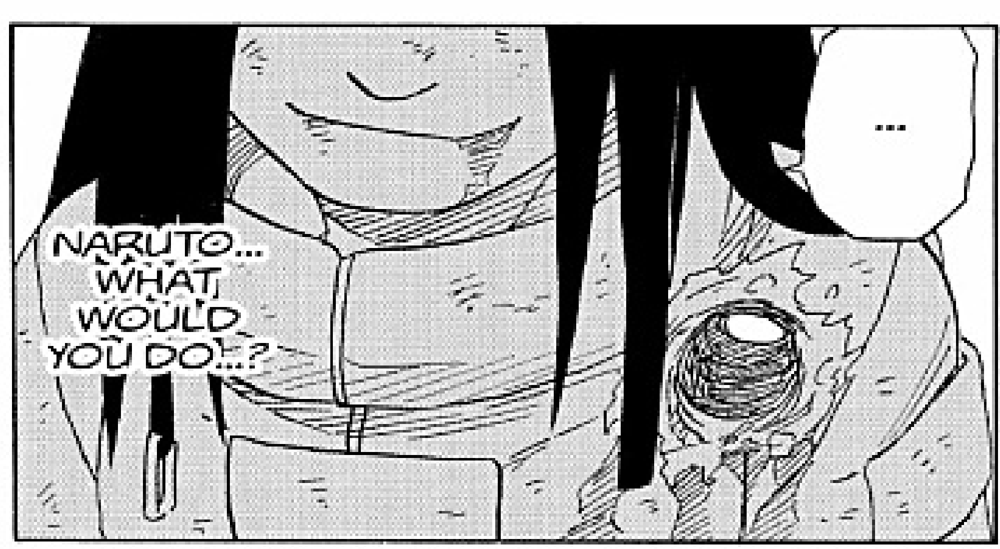


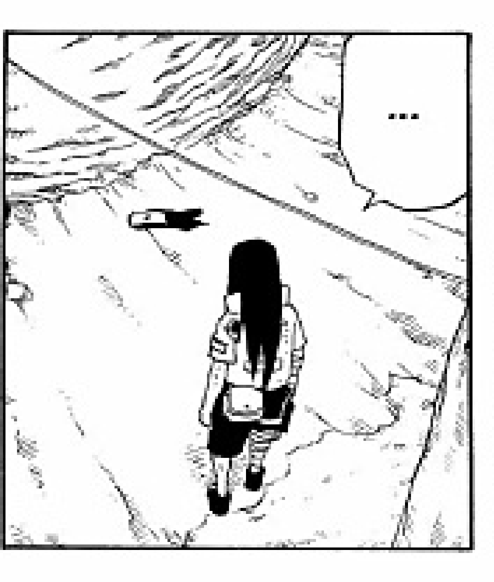

...HE IS SO MUCH STRONGER...
HUF
HUF


I'M ALMOST OUT OF CHAKRA...
...I CAN'T DODGE ANOTHER ATTACK.

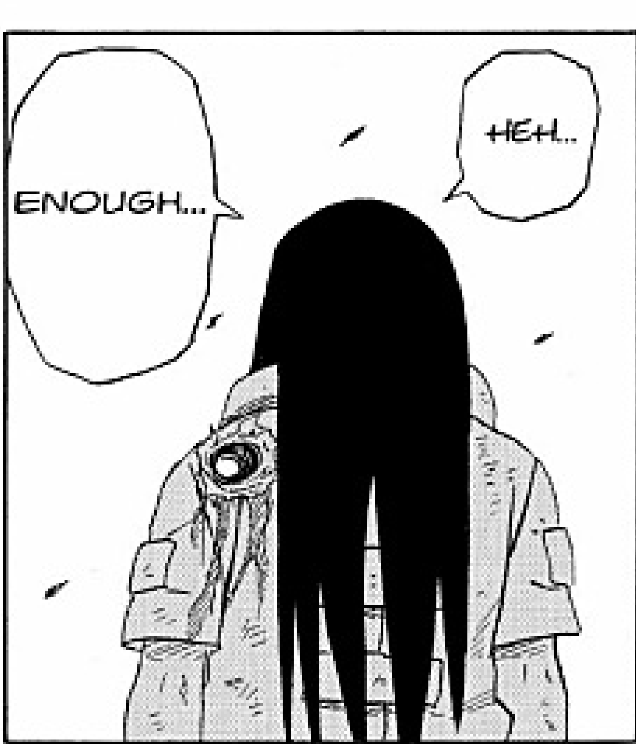

...

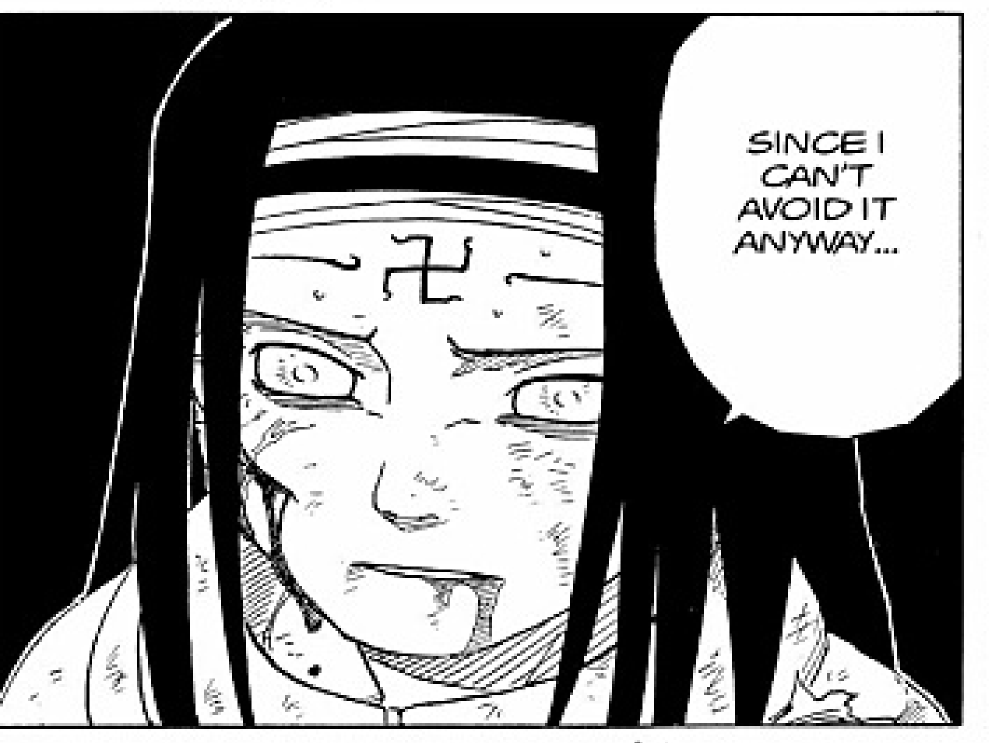

I VOW...
...TO WIN!!


...
NARUTO... WHAT WOULD YOU DO...?


...


READ
THIS
WAY


HEH..
ENOUGH...


SINCE I CAN'T AVOID IT ANYWAY...


...?!
HE STOPPED MOVING... HE'S GIVING UP?

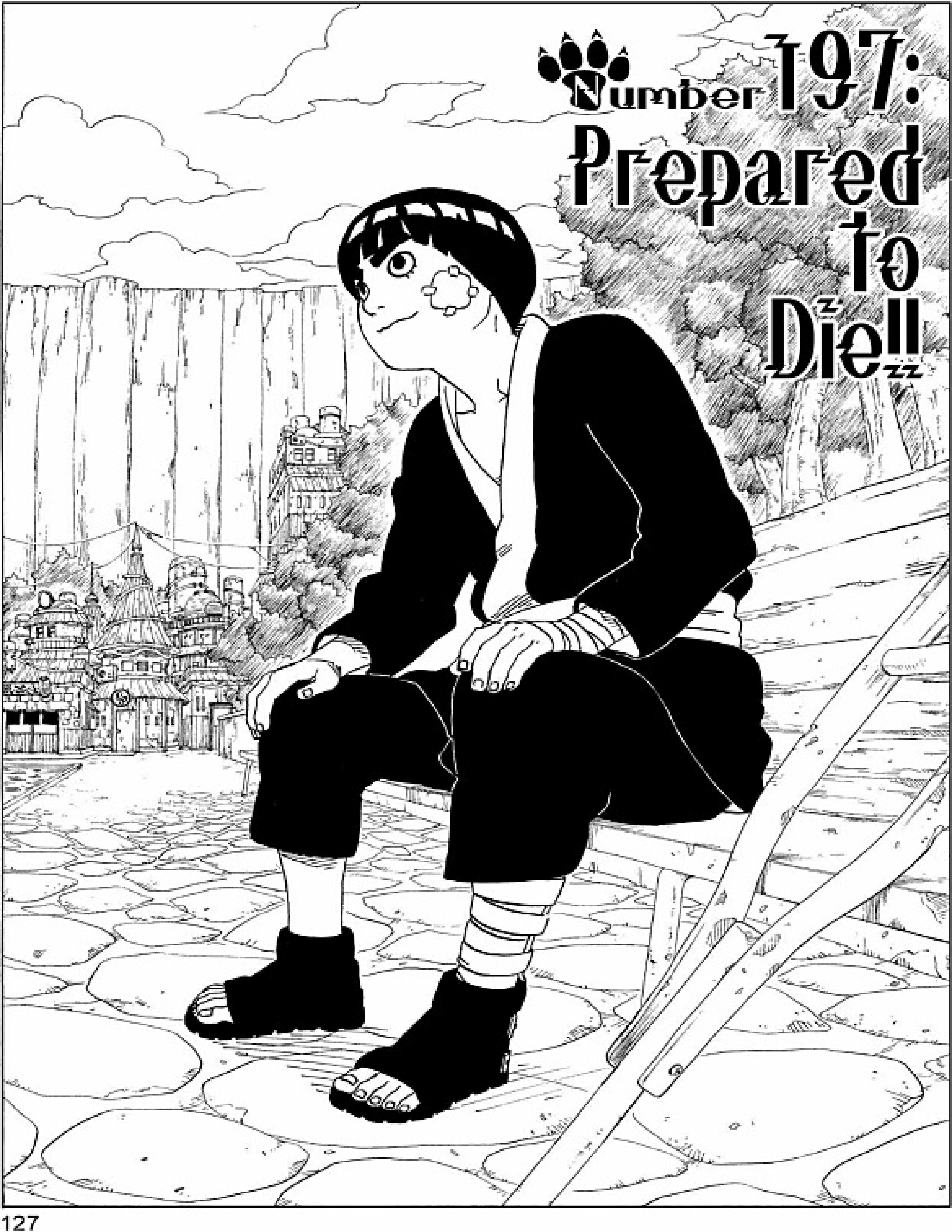

KRIK...
NO MATTER... DOESN'T HURT TO BE CAUTIOUS!


STRIKING ACCURACY: 120%.
DESTRUCTIVE POWER: ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM...!

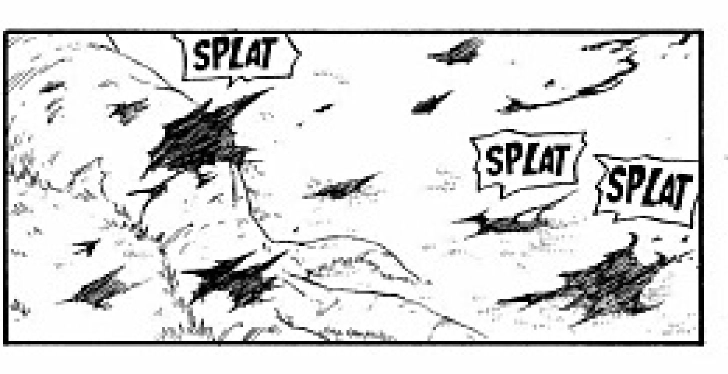

KRA
WHIIIIRR


KKRAKKRAKKRAK


NARUTO
TM


Number 197: Prepared to Die!!

...GOT HIM!!

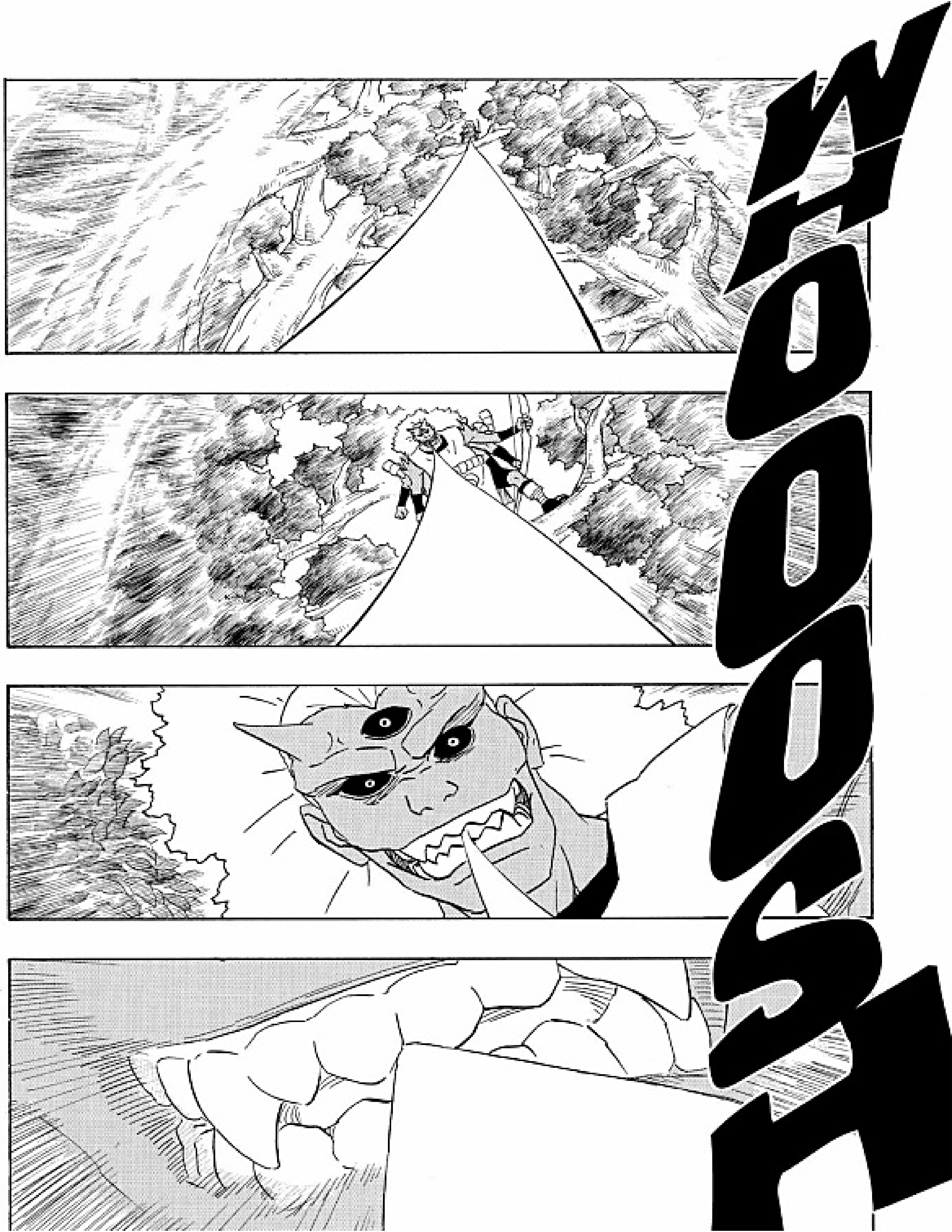





KRAK
SLAM
...GOTCHA...!
SCREECH
SIZZLE...


GENTLE FIST!!
ZWOO...


ZWOOOOOOSH
ZWOO...

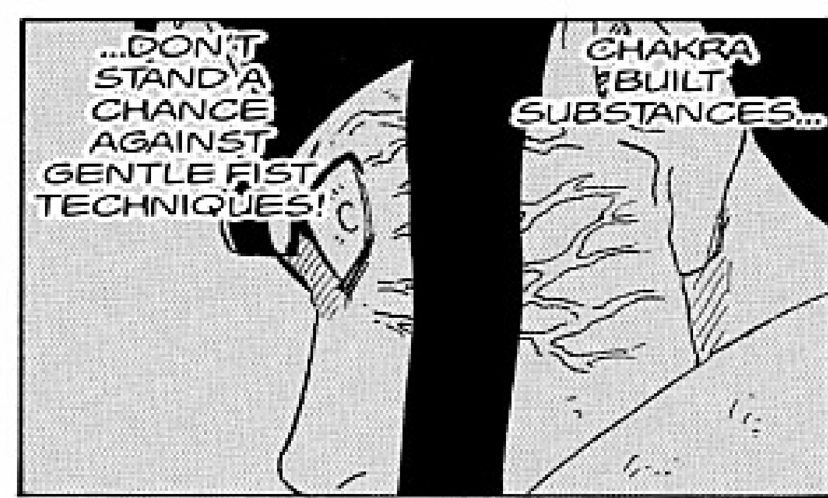

WHOOOOSH

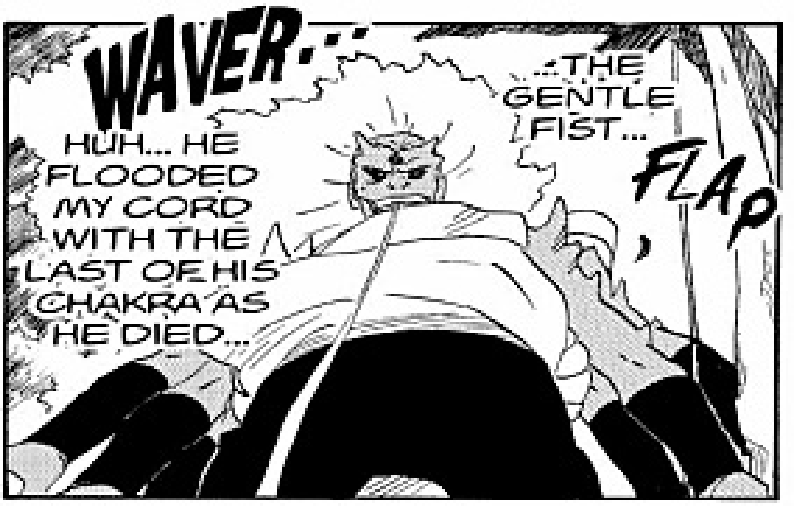
ZAP

?!!

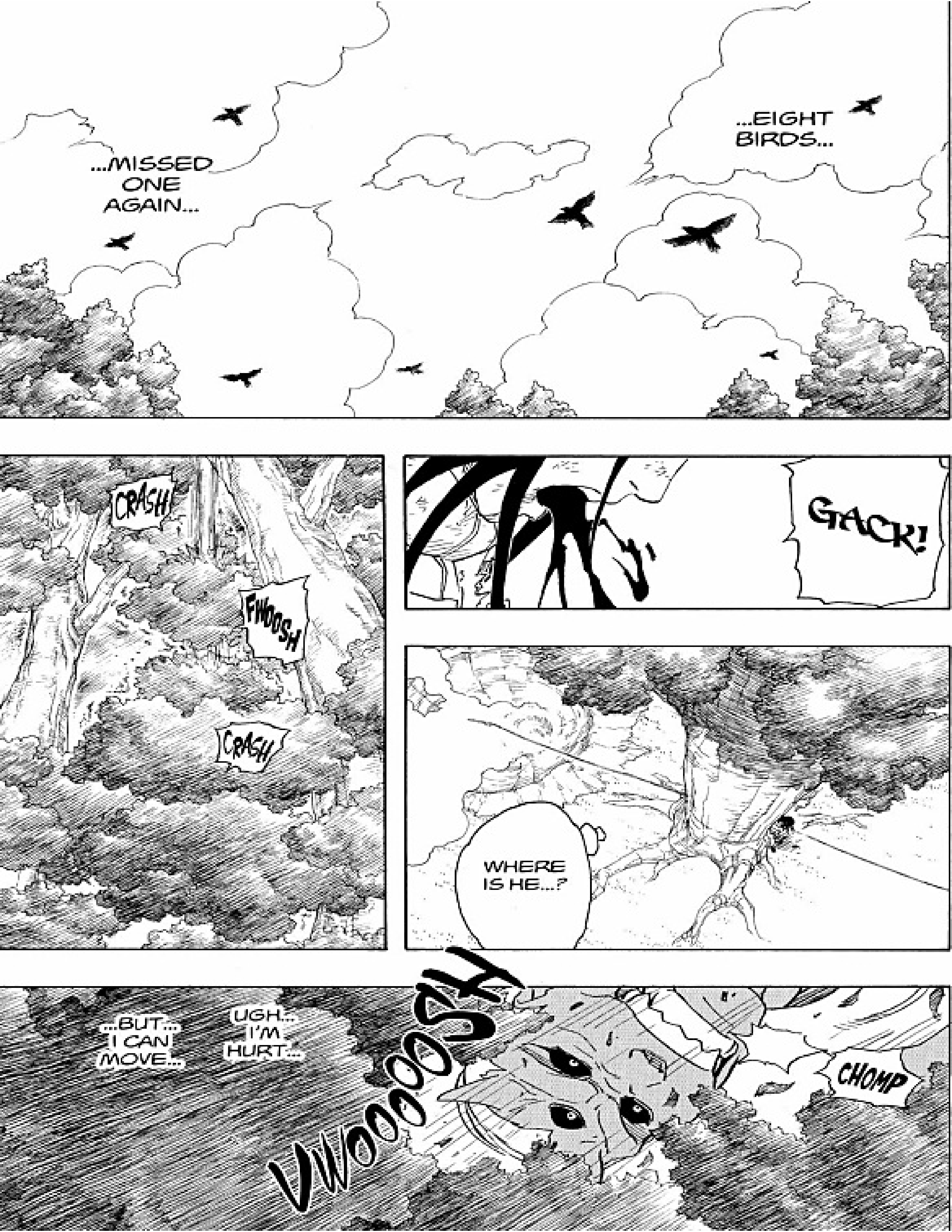

HUNH...
...
WH... WHAT...
...HE'S STILL ALIVE?!


BUT... I KNOW I HIT HIM!

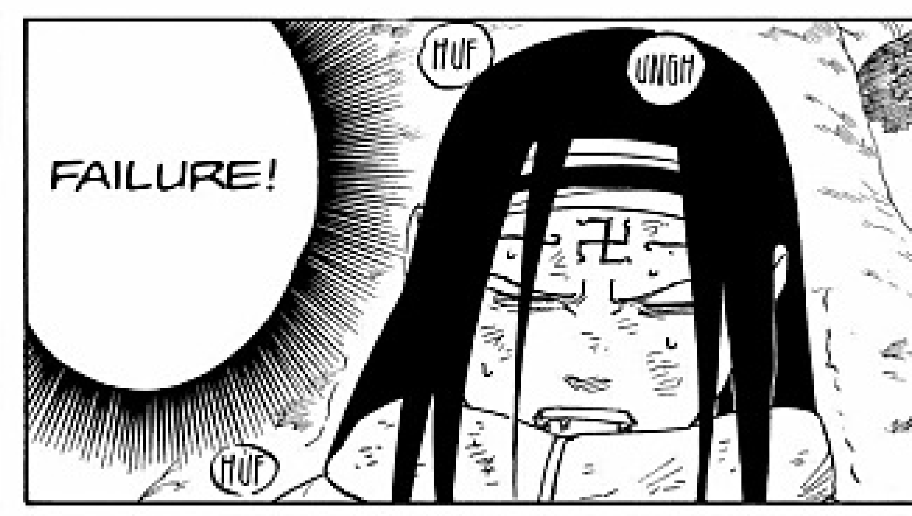

CHAKRA BUILT SUBSTANCES...
...DON'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST GENTLE FIST TECHNIQUES!

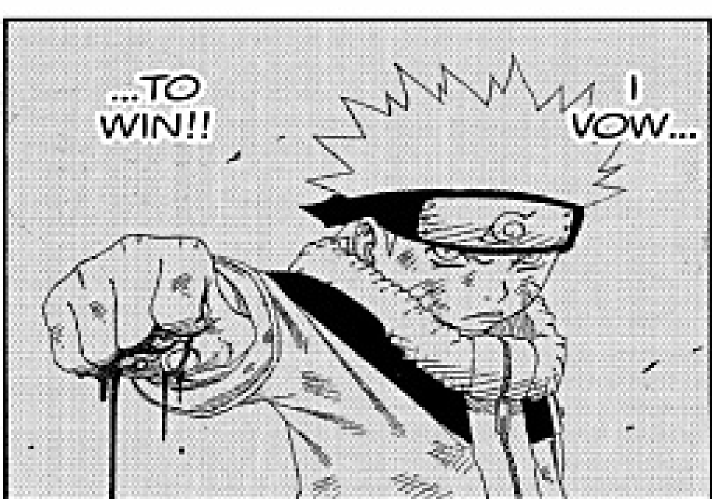

...THE GENTLE FIST...
WAVER...
HUH... HE FLOODED MY CORD WITH THE LAST OF HIS CHAKRA AS HE DIED...
FLAP


ZOOM...


...EIGHT BIRDS...
...MISSED ONE AGAIN...
GACK!
WHERE IS HE...?
CRASH!
FWOOSH
CRASH
CHOMP
VWOOOOSH
UGH... I'M HURT...
...BUT... I CAN MOVE...

HUF
HUF
HUF


HUF
UNGH
FAILURE!
HUF

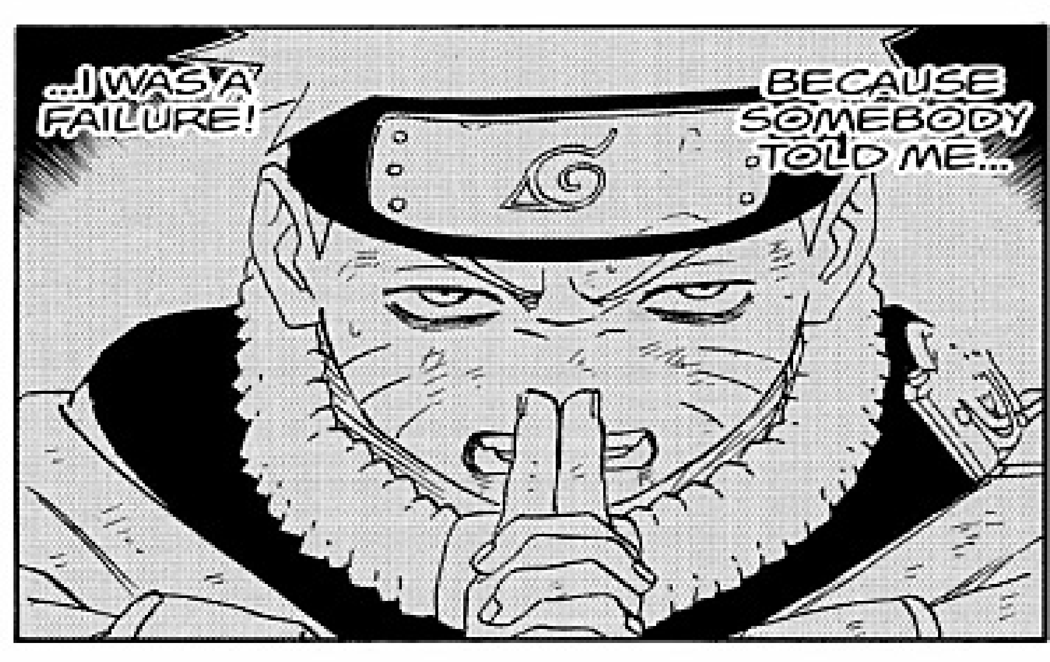

I VOW...
...TO WIN!!

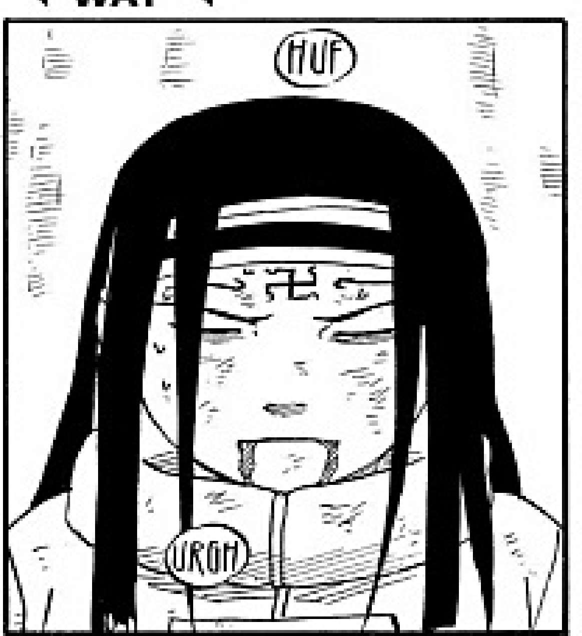

...
HUF
HUF


I TOLD YOU...
...I'M A SORE LOSER...!

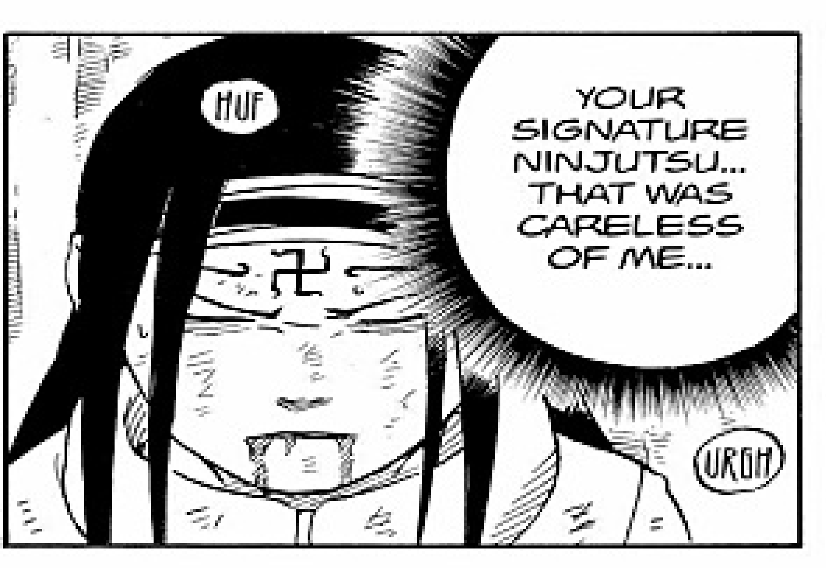

CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
WHY DO YOU KEEP TRYING SO HARD TO DEFY YOUR DESTINY?!
HUF
HUF


READ THIS WAY


BECAUSE SOMEBODY TOLD ME...
...I WAS A FAILURE!


HUF
URGH


IF YOU THINK IT'S INESCAPABLE, FINE! THEN STOP FIGHTING IT ALREADY!!
I'LL CHANGE THE HYUGA CLAN, WHEN I BECOME HOKAGE!!


HUF
YOUR SIGNATURE NINJUTSU... THAT WAS CARELESS OF ME...
URGH

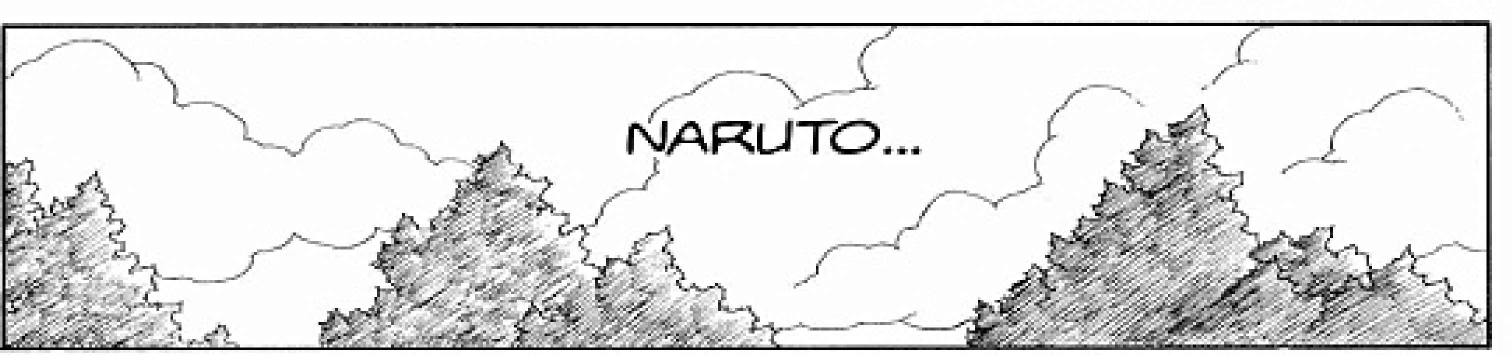

AND MY WEAKEST NINJUTSU...
...WAS BUNSHIN NO JUTSU... THE ART OF THE DOPPELGANGER.


HUF


SO SHUT UP ABOUT "DESTINY" AND "INESCAPABLE FATE"... YOU SHOULDN'T WHINE ABOUT SUCH TRIVIAL STUFF!
'CAUSE... UNLIKE ME...

GLARE

...YOU'RE NOT A "FAILURE"!







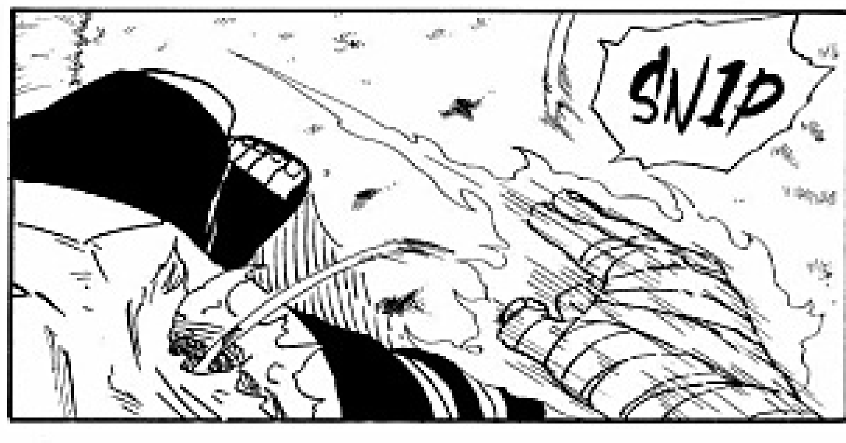
READ THIS WAY





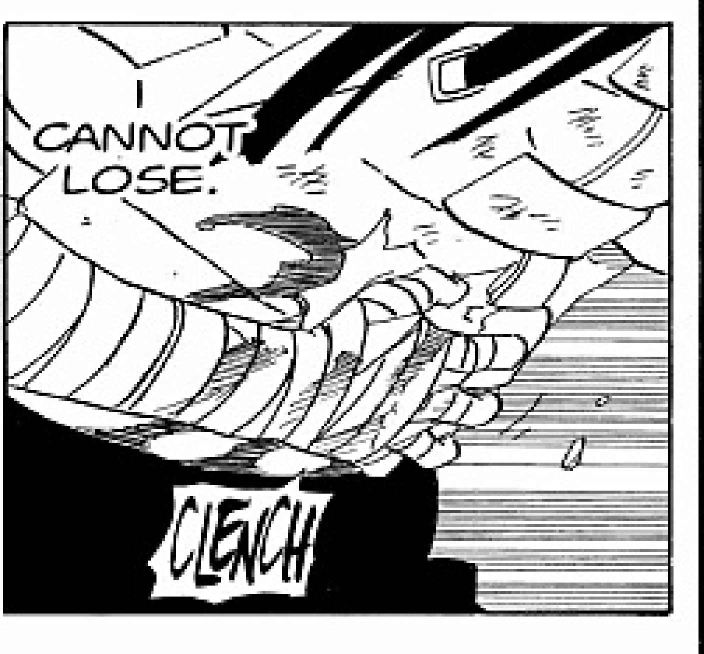


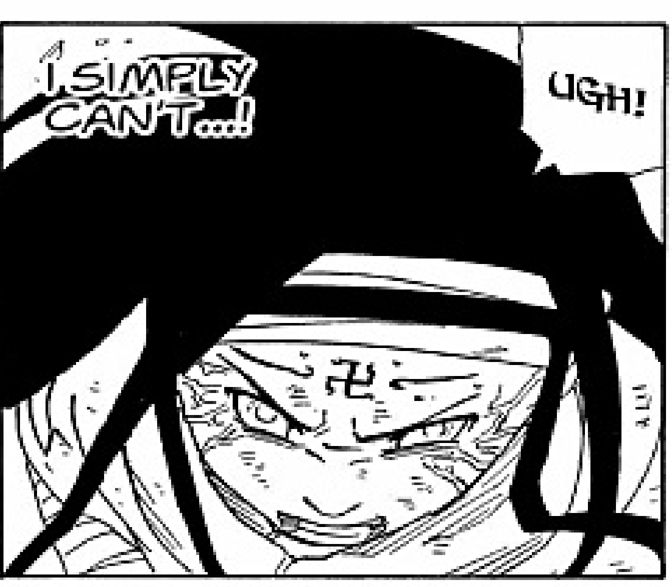


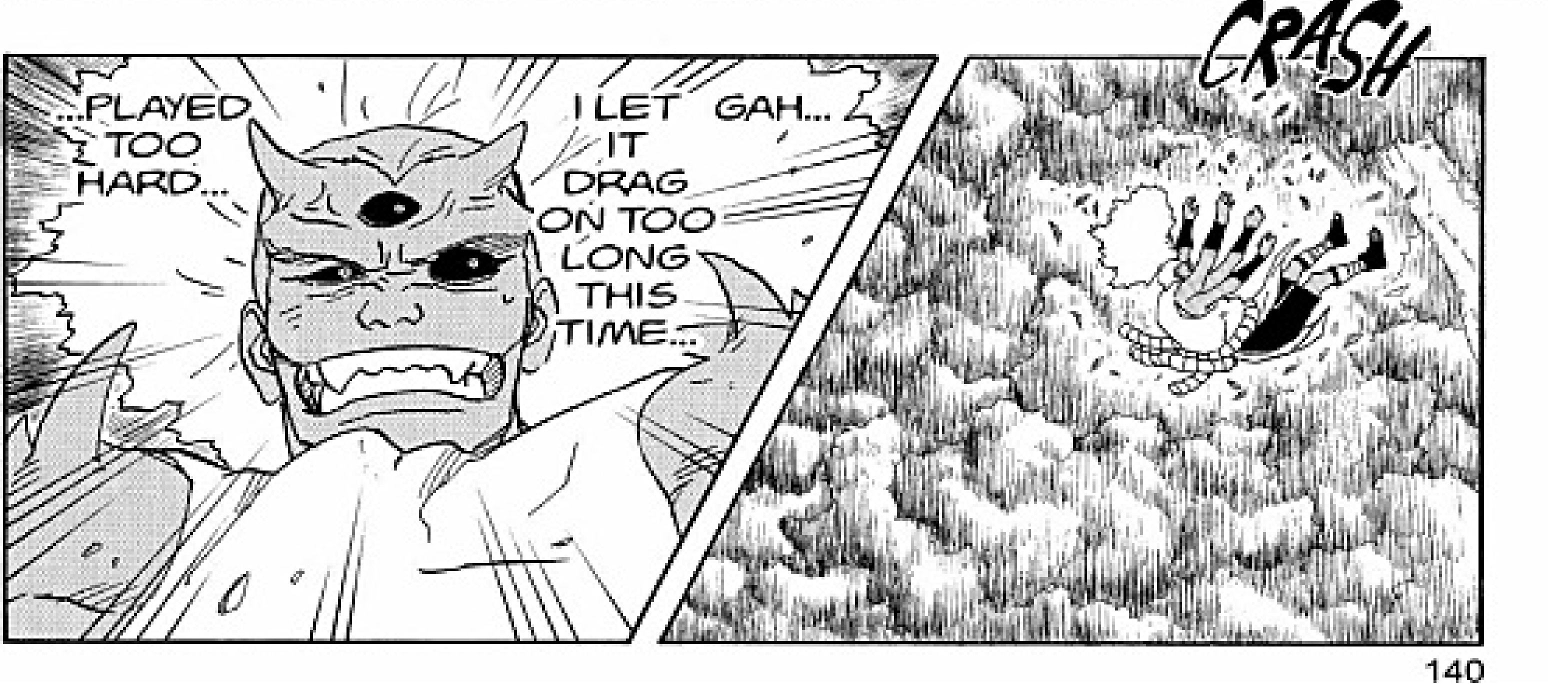




I CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE...
...EVEN IF MY OPPONENT IS STRONGER...
...EVEN IF I WERE TO DIE...





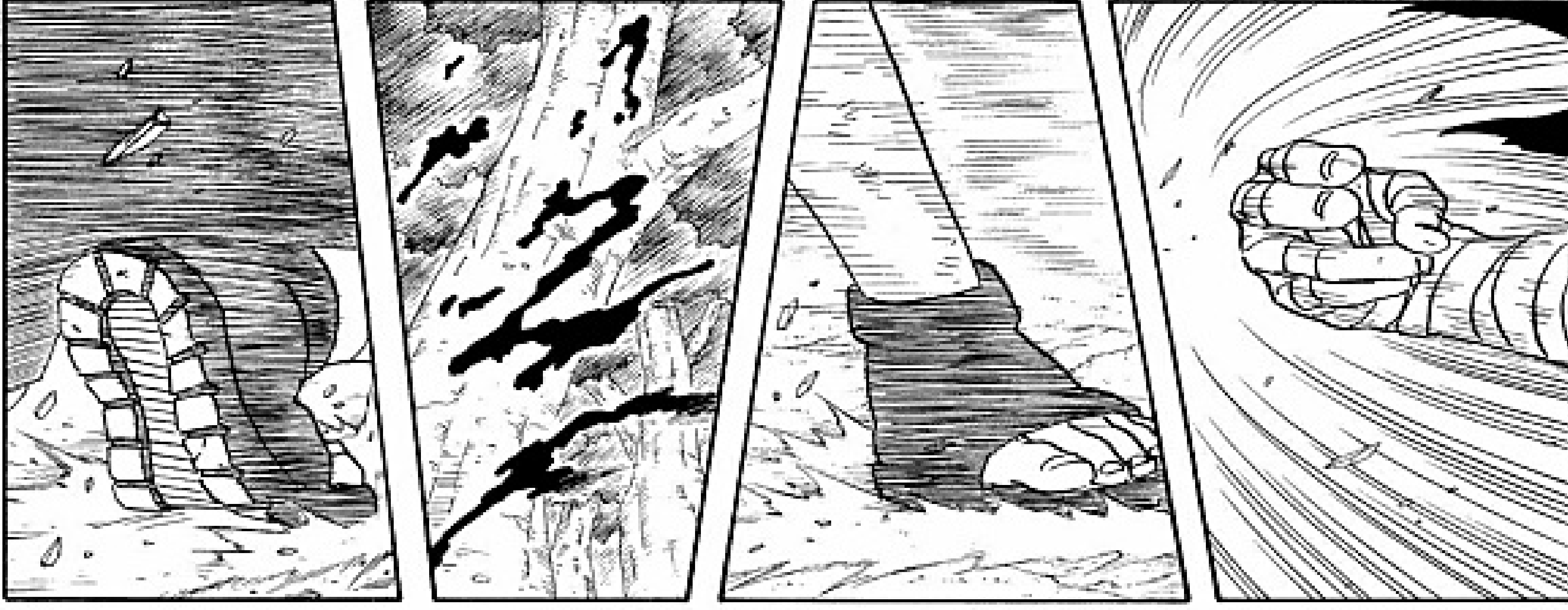








HUH?

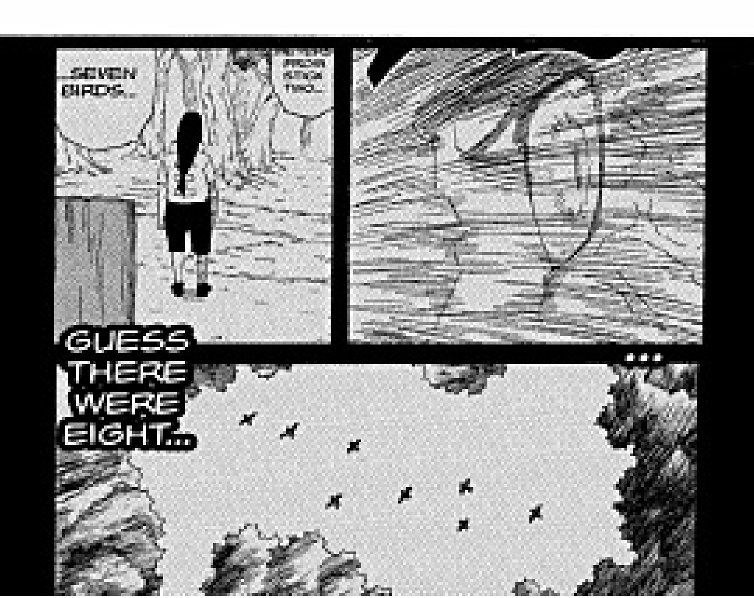












I KNOW MY LIMITS BETTER THAN YOU...


WHUMP
HUF
URGH
...COULDN'T DODGE IT ANYWAY...
...I DECIDED... TO TAKE THE HIT...

I KNEW THAT THE BYAKUGAN HAD A DEAD ANGLE.

AND ONCE I SAW YOU WERE ONLY ATTACKING THERE...

...I COULD RE-FOCUS AND EMIT MY CHAKRA JUST AROUND THERE... IT WASN'T TOO HARD TO THEN MOVE ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU MISS...

I'M HURT... BUT I'M ALIVE.





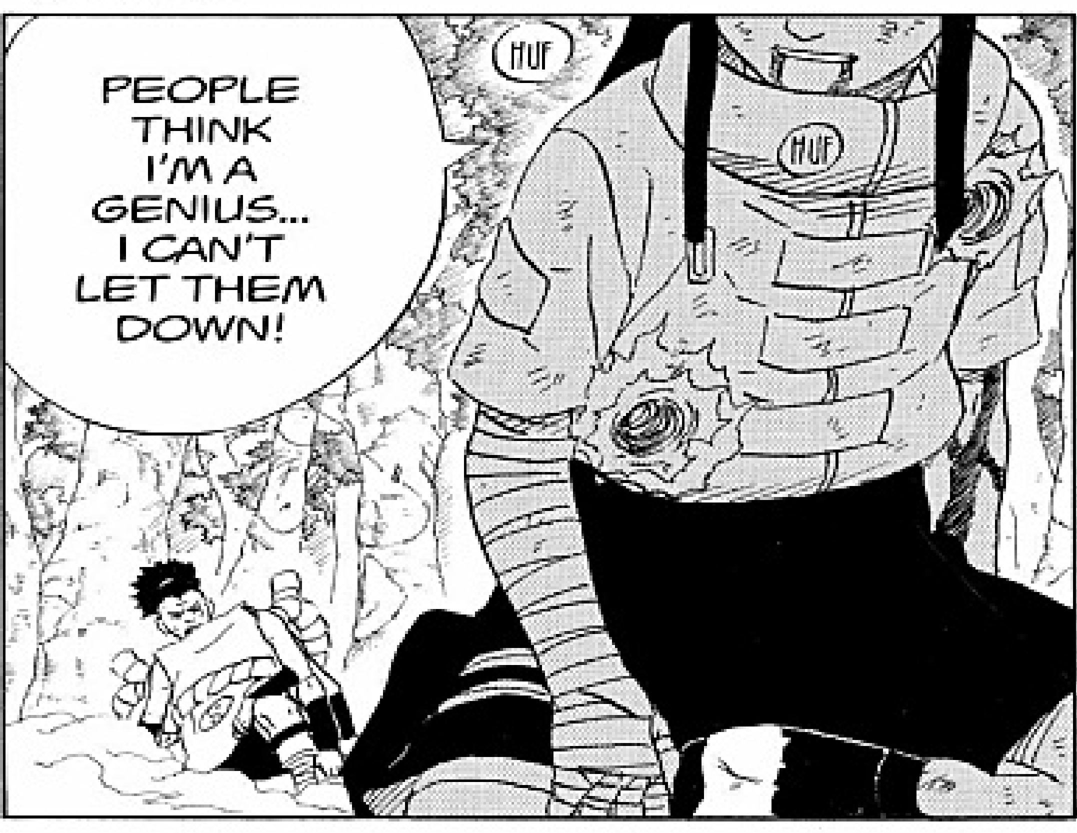










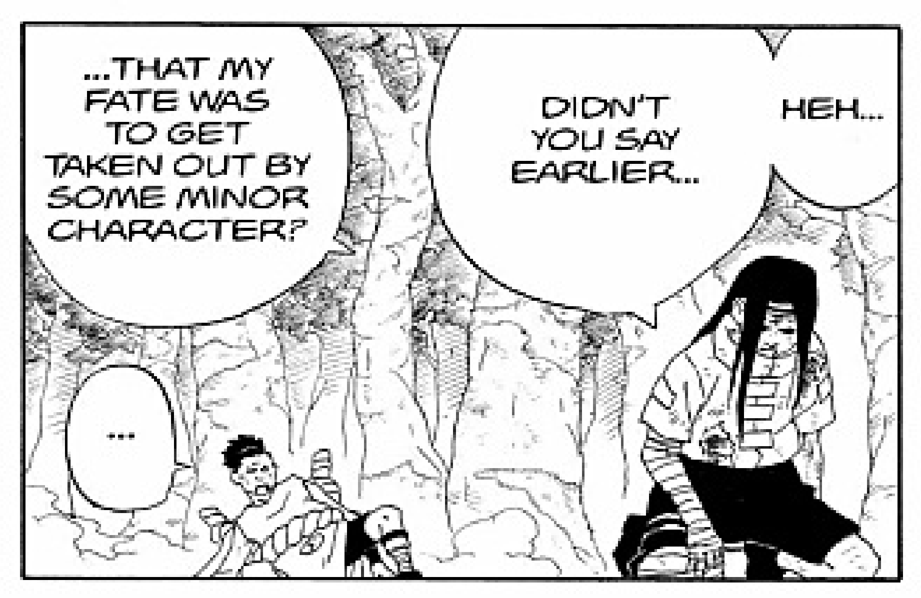


TOO MANY PEOPLE HAVE FAITH IN ME...!


NARUTO
TM

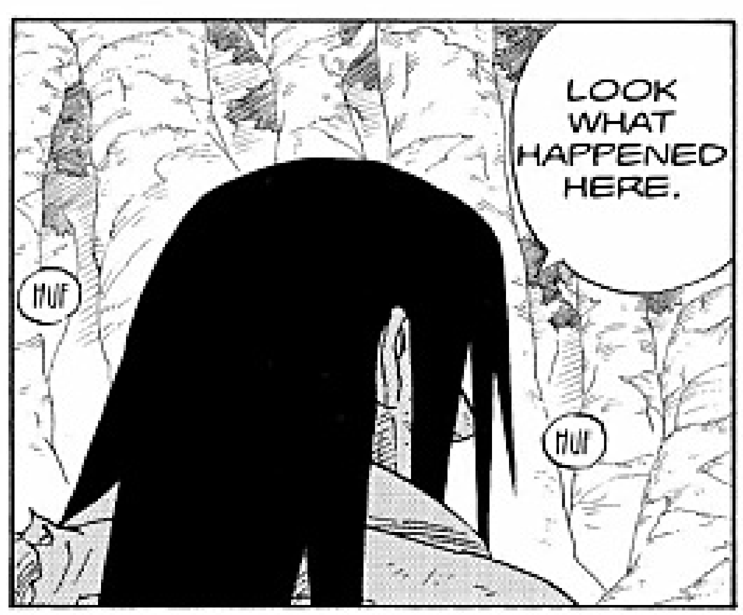
Number 198: Transference...!!




HEH...
DIDN'T YOU SAY EARLIER...
...THAT MY FATE WAS TO GET TAKEN OUT BY SOME MINOR CHARACTER?
...


HACK!

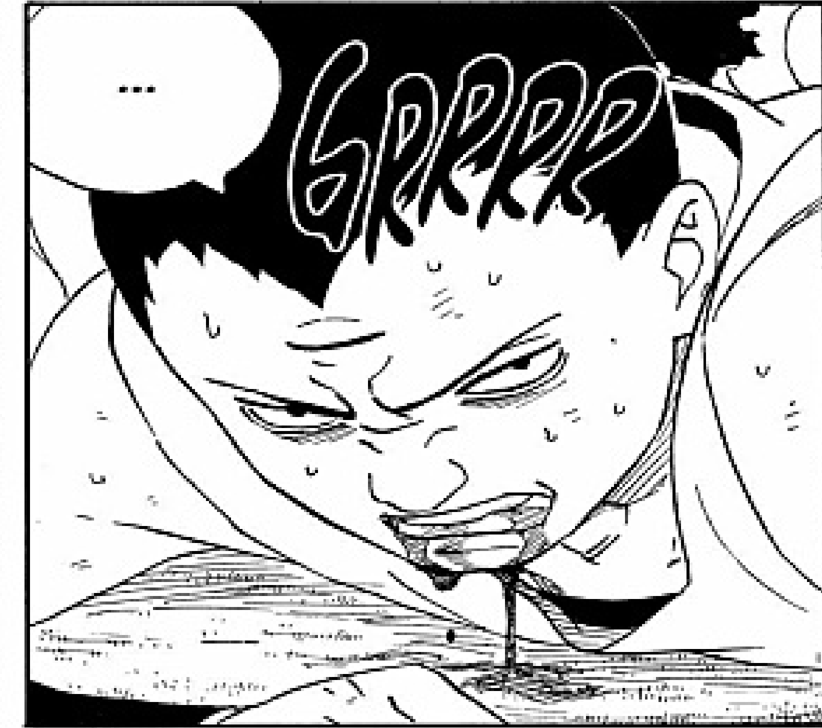

URGH
HUF
...
HUF

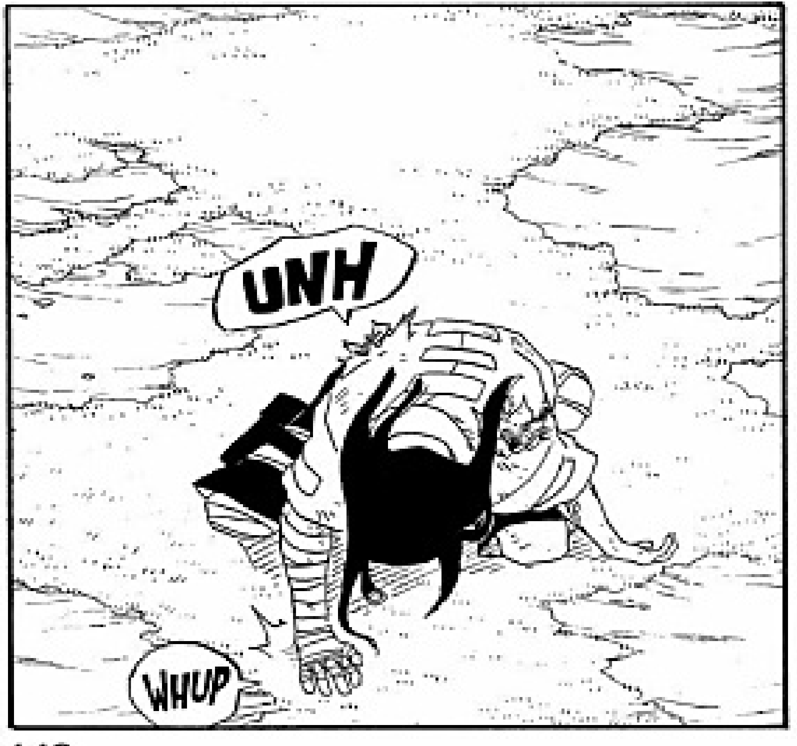

LOOK WHAT HAPPENED HERE.
HUF
HUF

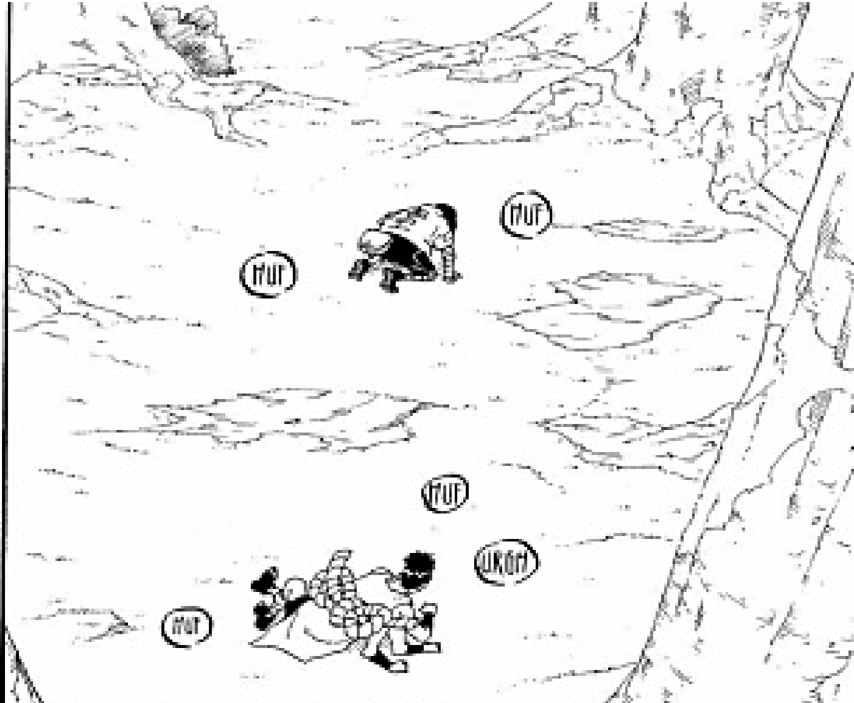

HUF
HUF
...!

FATE...

...ISN'T SOMETHING FOR YOU TO DECIDE.



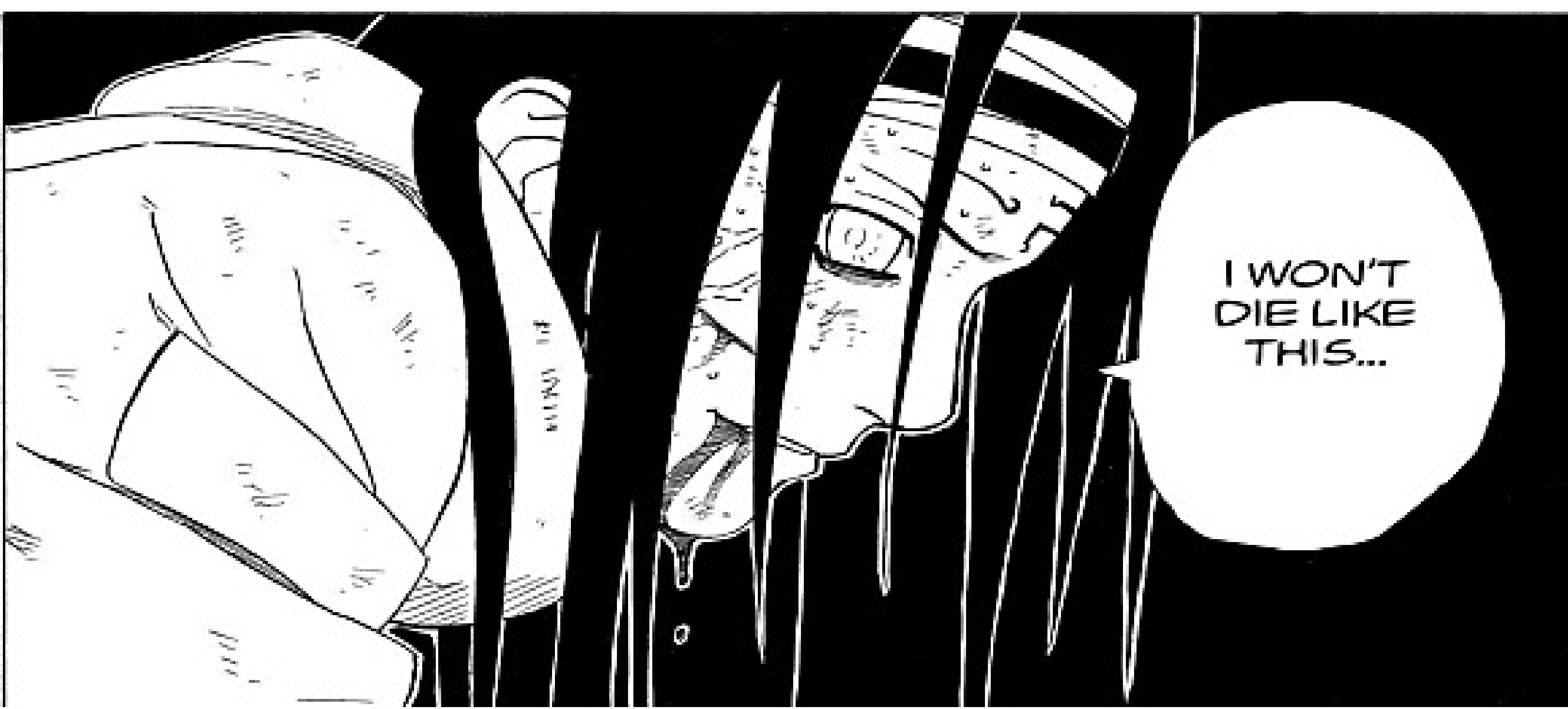




HEH...
I WONDER...
YOU STILL LOOK DEAD TO ME...

...

NEJI... YOU...
...MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE, YOU'VE BEEN BLESSED WITH THE GENIUS OF THE HYUGA CLAN...

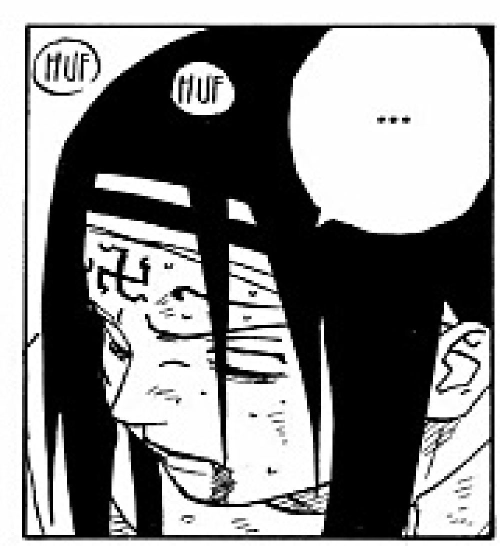
...

I WON'T DIE LIKE THIS...


READ THIS WAY

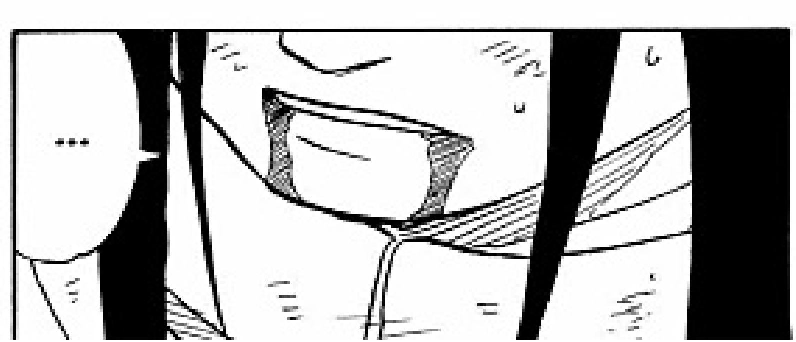

HUF
...

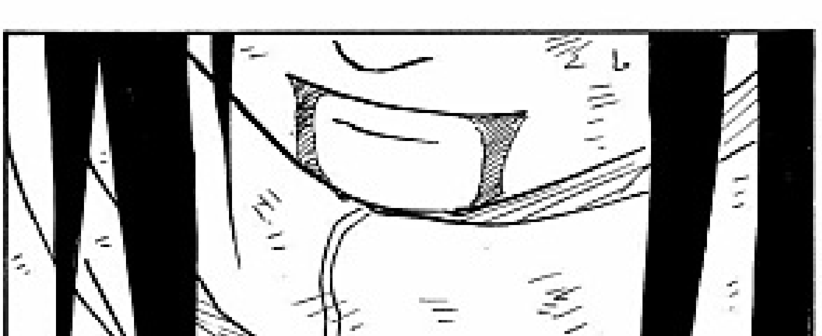

HUF
HUF
...TRY ALL YOU WANT, BUT YOU CAN'T STOP IT...


...SASUKE...
...HAS WILLINGLY JOINED THE SOUND.

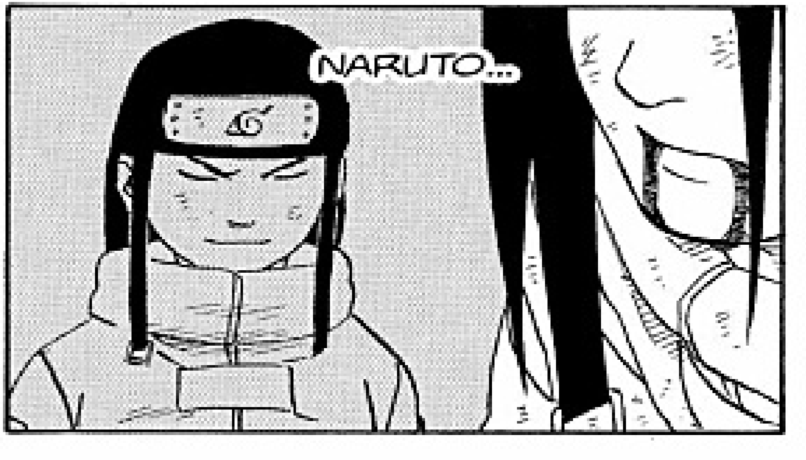

HUF
HUF
...


RIGHT NOW, SASUKE...
...IS WRAPPED IN DARKNESS.

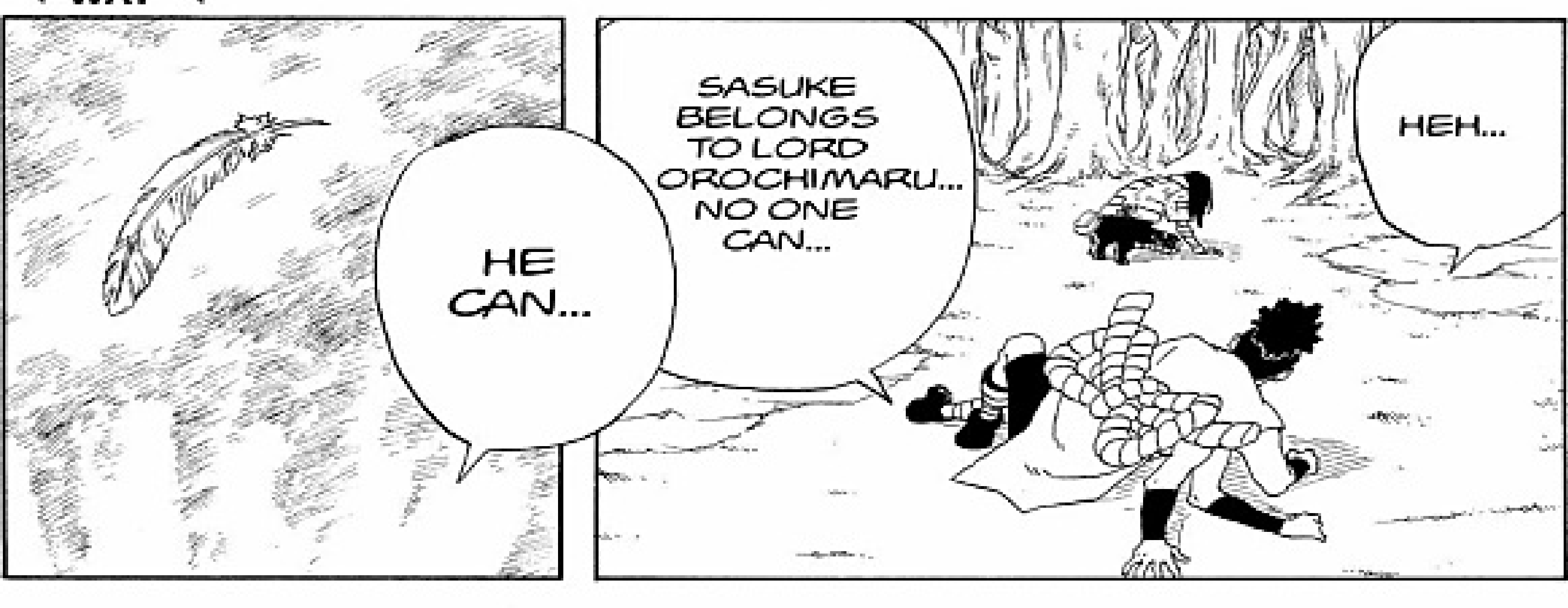

...



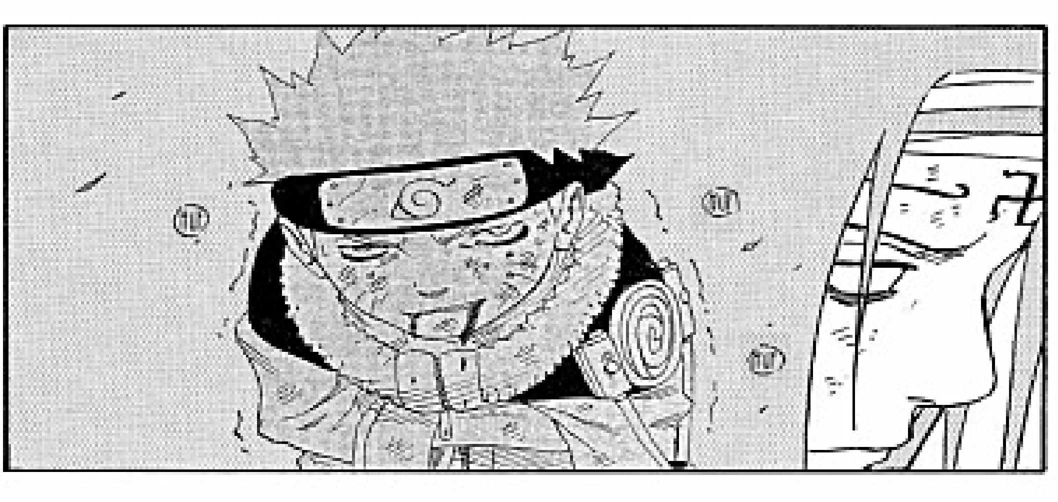

YOU'RE WRONG...
?!


NARUTO...
YOU'VE GOT BETTER SIGHT THAN I DO.
THERE IS SOMEONE...
...WHO CAN FIND AND RESCUE SASUKE FROM THE DARKNESS!


READ THIS WAY

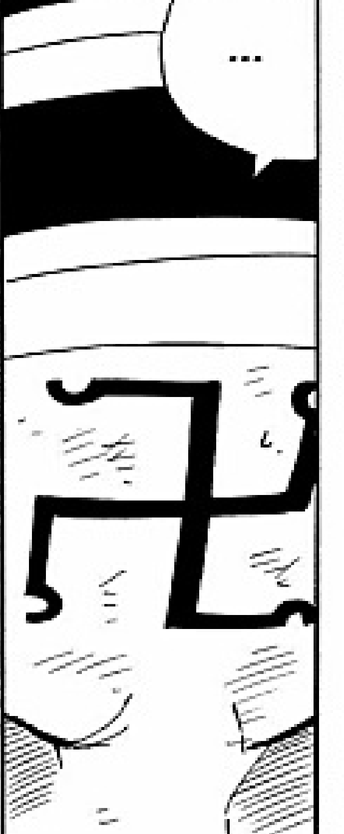

HEH...
SASUKE BELONGS TO LORD OROCHIMARU... NO ONE CAN...
HE CAN...


HUF
?!
HUF


HUF
HUF
HUF


FOR...

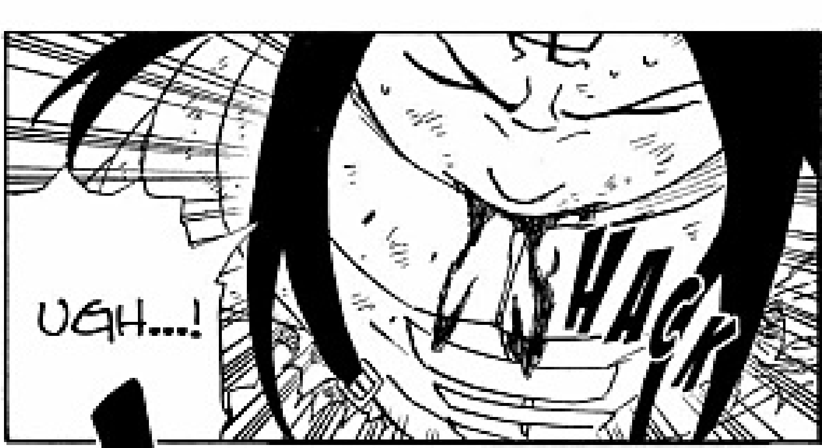

...NARUTO... YOU...
CLAP
CLA


...


...SAVED ME FROM THE DARKNESS!

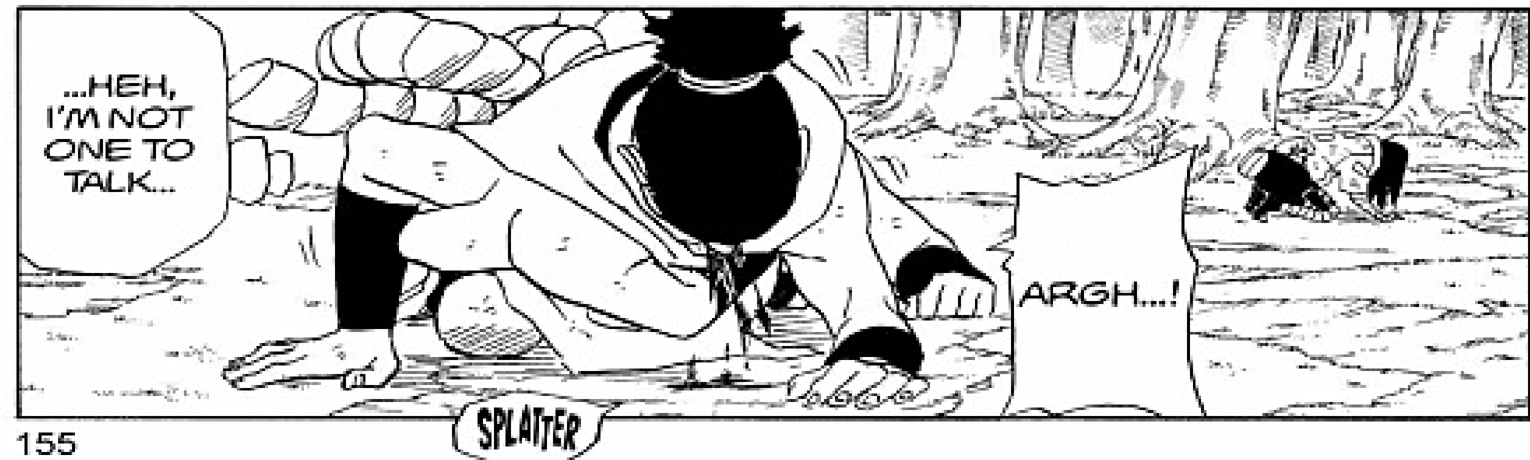



HUF
...!
HUF

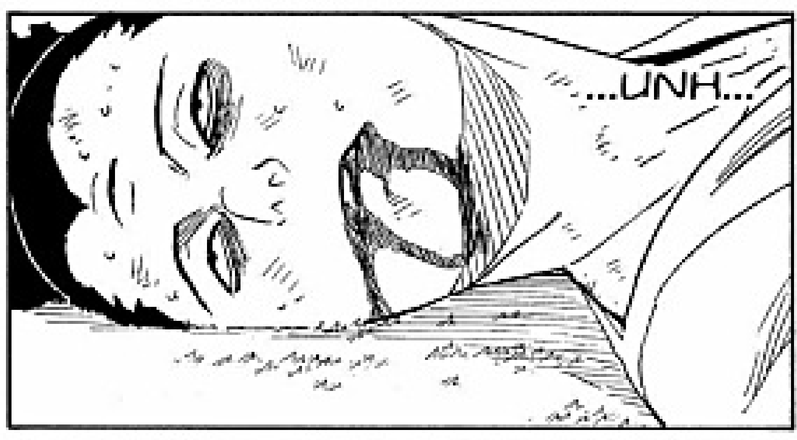

UGH...!
HACK

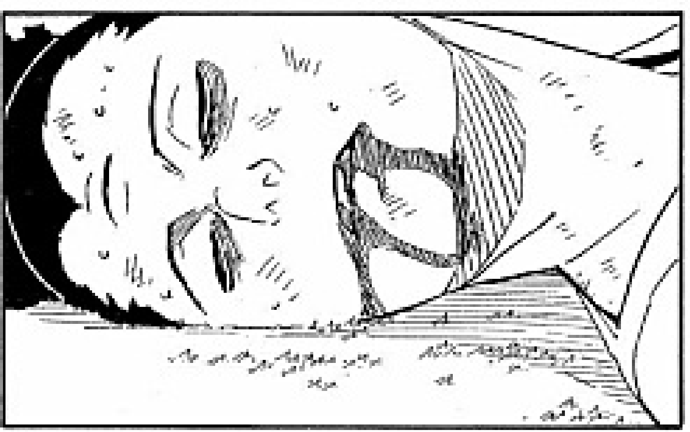

SMART-ALECK TO THE END...


SHOOM

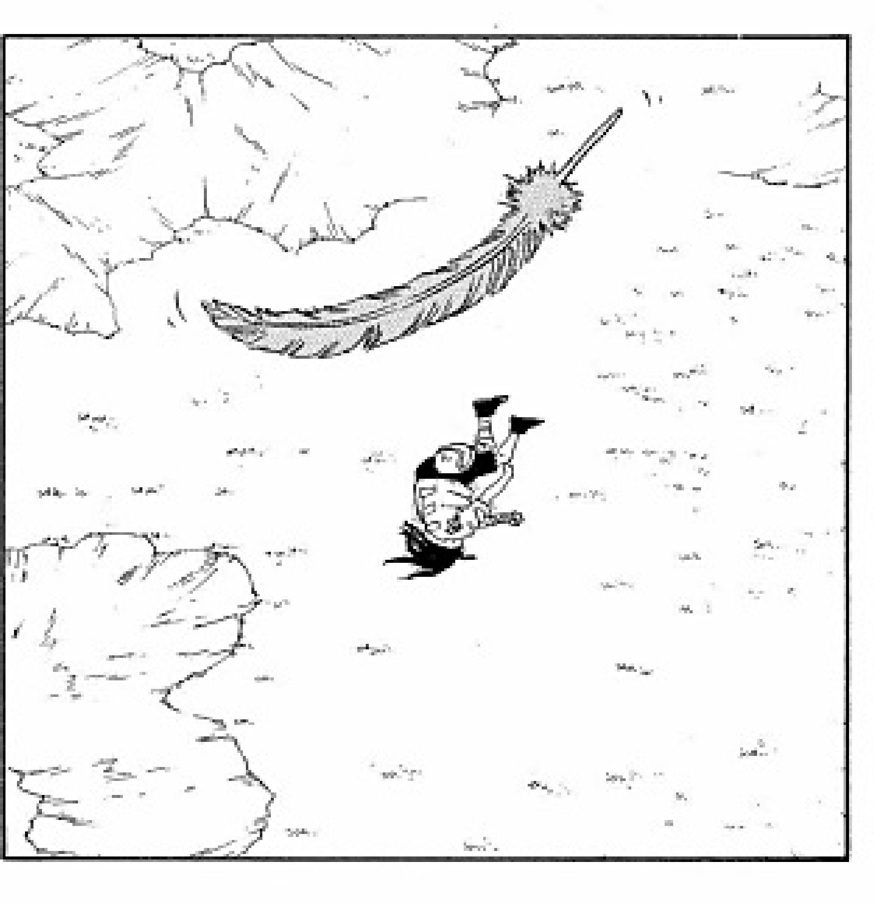

ARGH...!
...HEH, I'M NOT ONE TO TALK...
SPLATTER

HUF
HUF
HE'S THE FIRST TO DRIVE ME THIS FAR SINCE KIMIMARO...
SLUMP





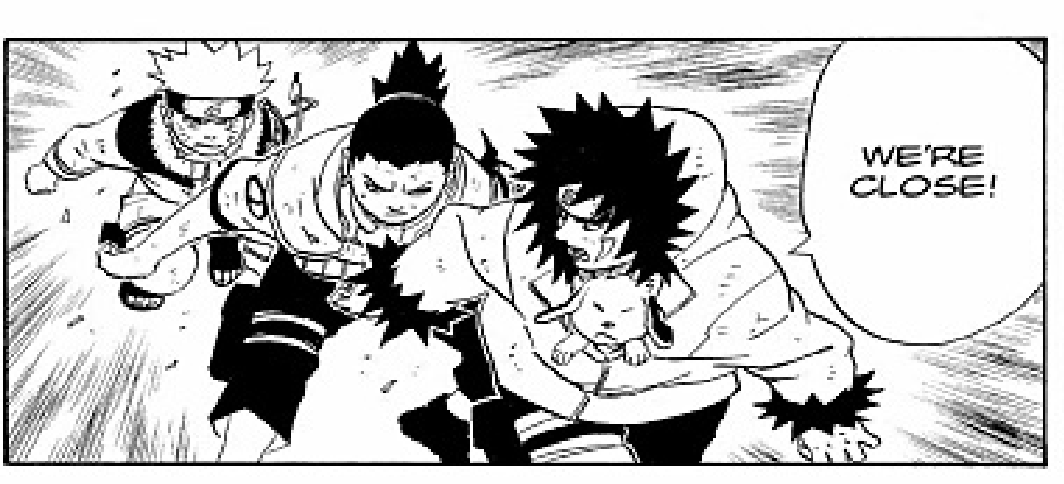





READ THIS WAY


SHOOM
SHOOM


SNIFF
SNIFF


WE'RE CLOSE!


...TWO ENEMIES LEFT...
AND WE'RE THREE... THAT'S A ONE-MAN ADVANTAGE.
IF WE DO IT RIGHT, WE MIGHT GET THIS DONE WITH JUST ONE CONTACT.


ALL RIGHT! NOW WE'RE TALKING!
LET'S DO IT!!


HEY!
DON'T FORGET, IT'S FOUR-TO-TWO!

ARF!
ARF!

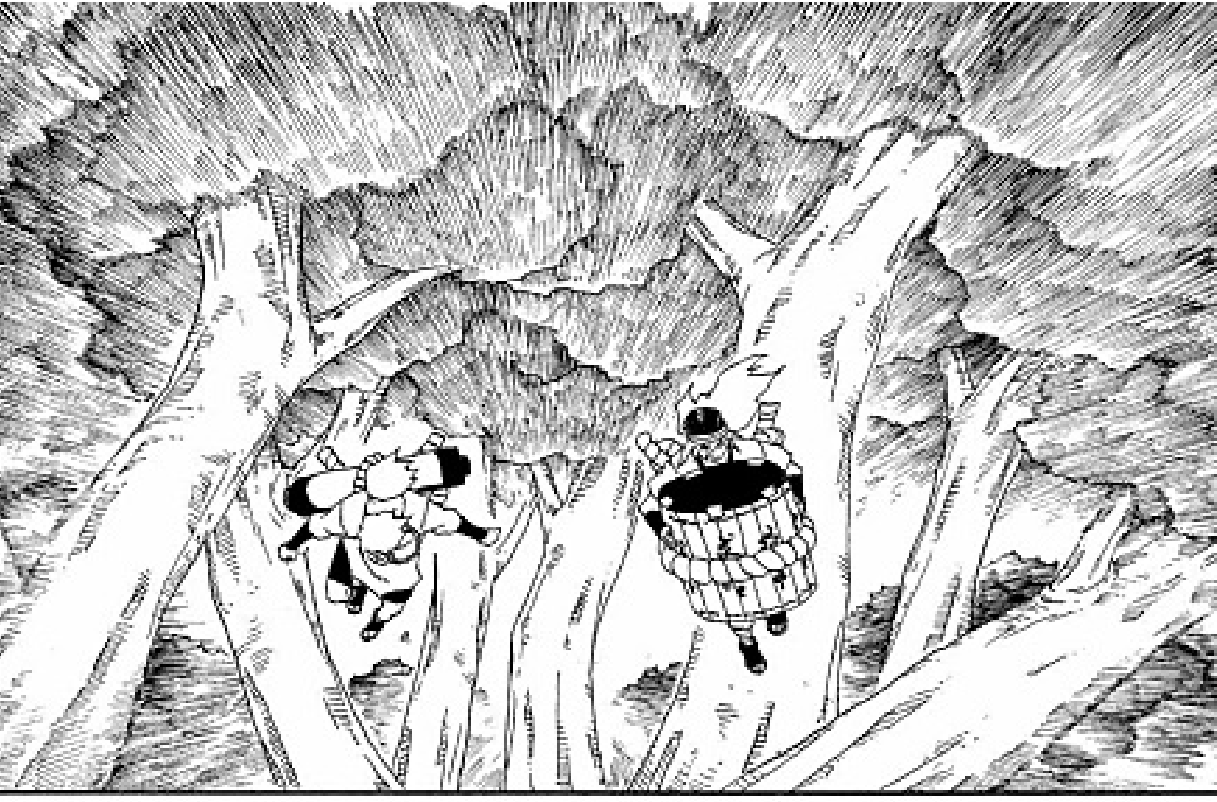

RIGHT, SORRY!
FOUR AGAINST TWO.


THIS TIME, WE TWO'LL TAKE CARE OF 'EM WITH OUR NEW MOVE!!
ARF!

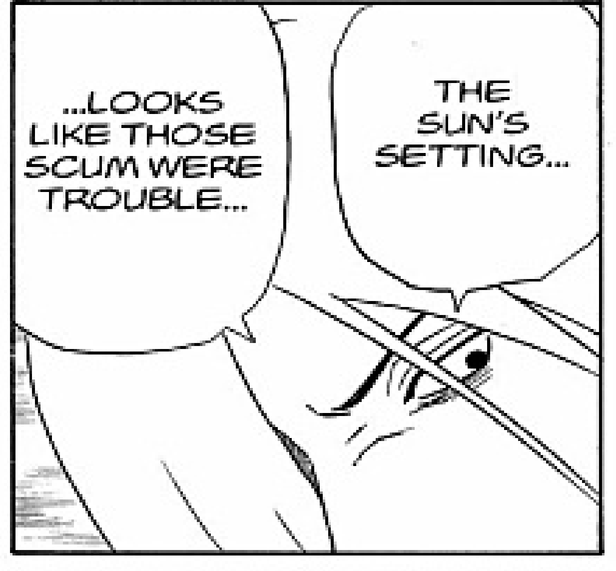

HEY! WAIT!
I WAS THINKING ABOUT MAKING TONS OF SHADOW DOPPEL-GANGERS!


THANKS, BOTH OF YOU, BUT...

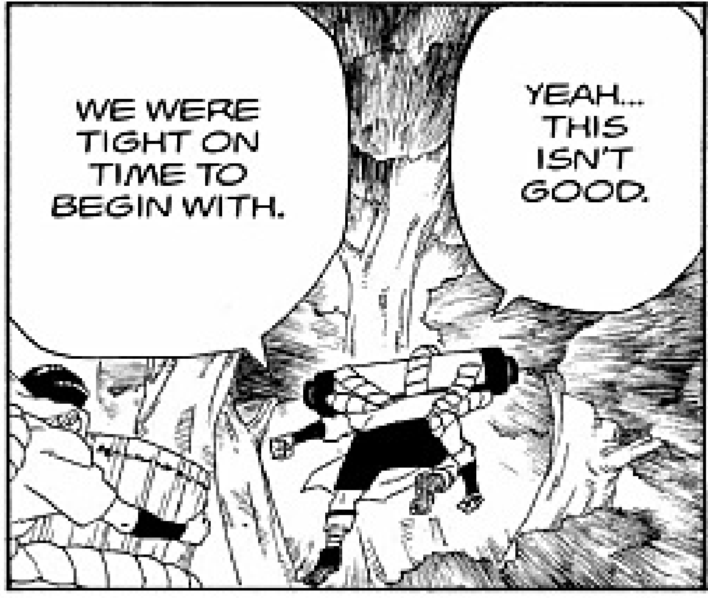

...FIRST, WE TRY MY PLAN.
ALL RIGHT?

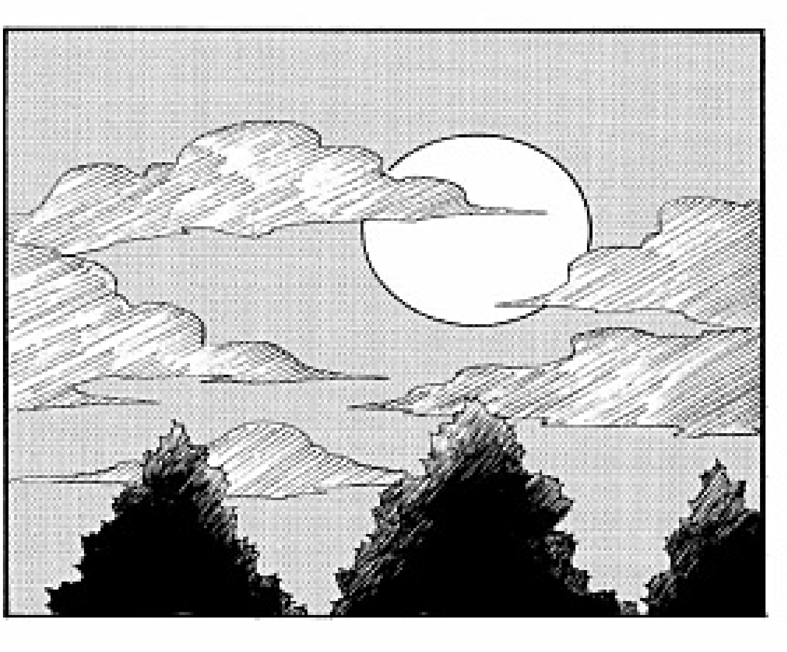


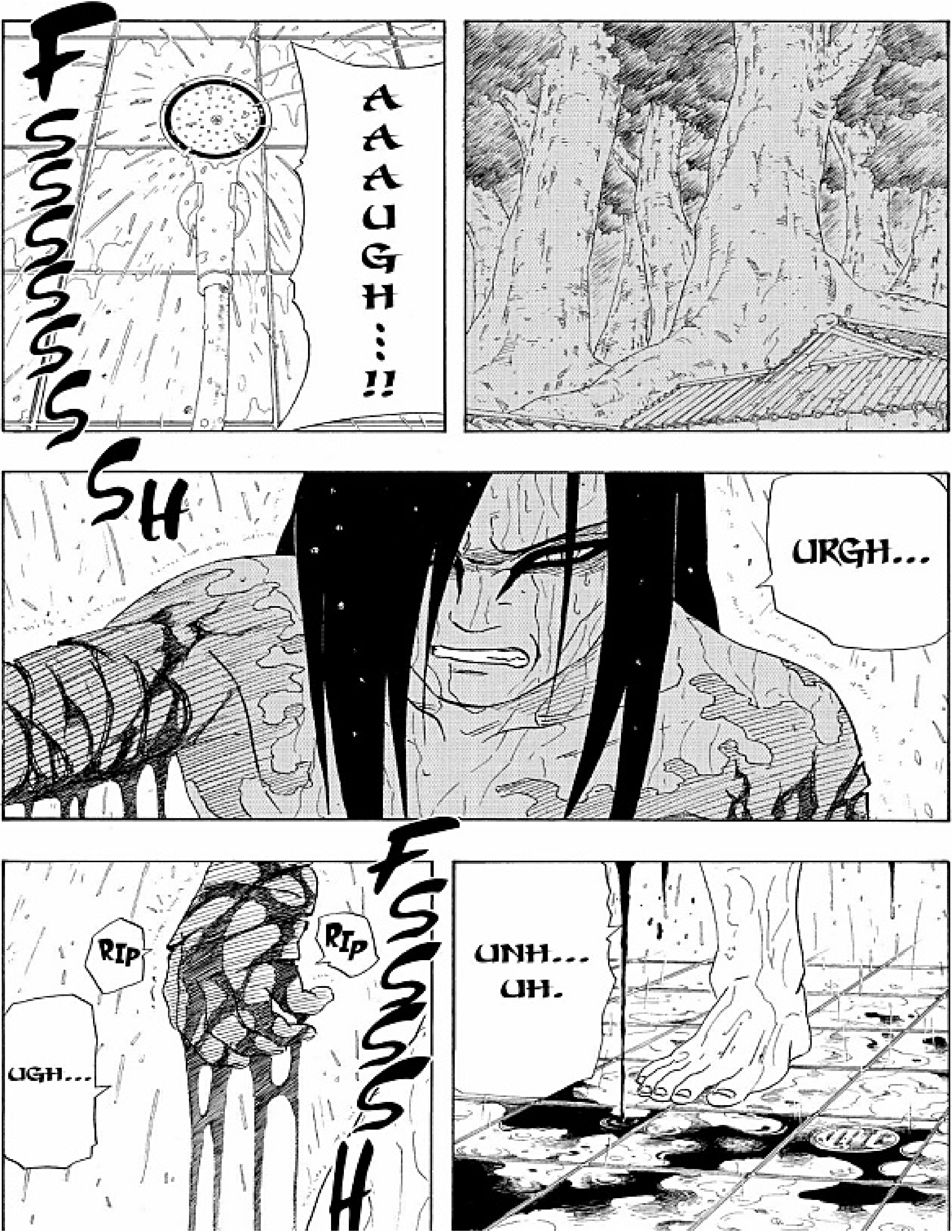

...


THE SUN'S SETTING...
...LOOKS LIKE THOSE SCUM WERE TROUBLE...


IT'S TAKEN US HALF A DAY TO COVER ONLY A THIRD OF THE DISTANCE.
WHO CARES...?
I'M WORRIED ABOUT LORD OROCHIMARU.


YEAH... THIS ISN'T GOOD.
WE WERE TIGHT ON TIME TO BEGIN WITH.




AAAUGH...!!
FSSSSSSSH
URGH...
UNH... UH.
FSSSSH
RIP
RIP
UGH...


RIP
RIP
AAAAH...!
RIP

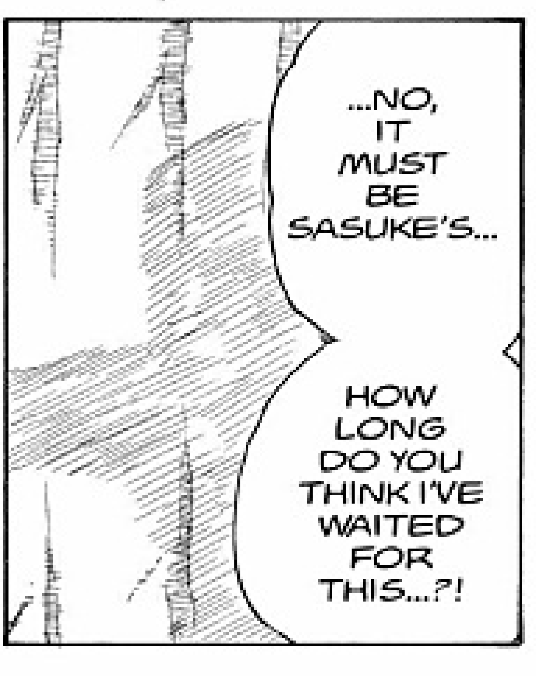

HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF


SASUKE... WHERE IS SASUKE?
HUF
HUF

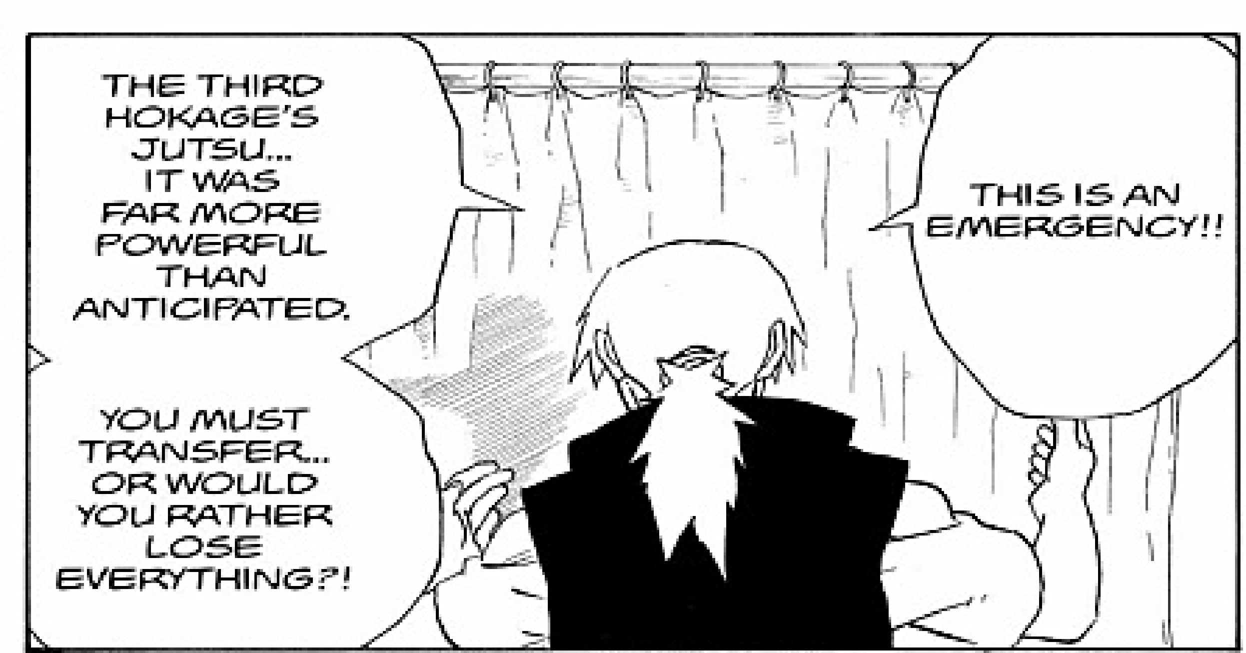

...
WE'RE OUT OF TIME... THIS IS IT.


LORD OROCHIMARU... WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF BODIES.
AND IF YOU MUST...


...YOU MAY EVEN TAKE MINE.


...NO, IT MUST BE SASUKE'S...
HOW LONG DO YOU THINK I'VE WAITED FOR THIS...?!


READ THIS WAY

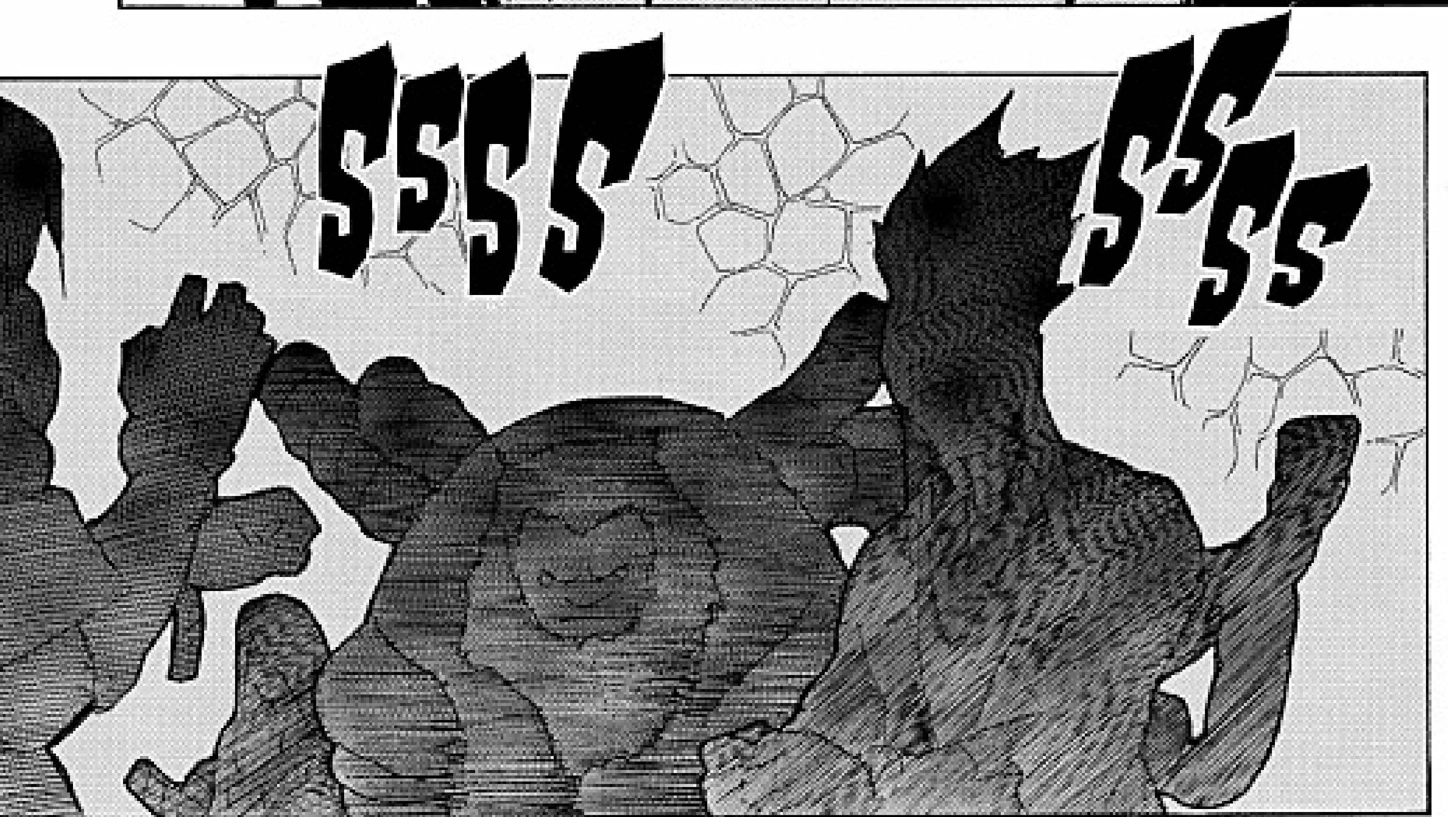

THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!!
THE THIRD HOKAGE'S JUTSU... IT WAS FAR MORE POWERFUL THAN ANTICIPATED.
YOU MUST TRANSFER... OR WOULD YOU RATHER LOSE EVERYTHING?!

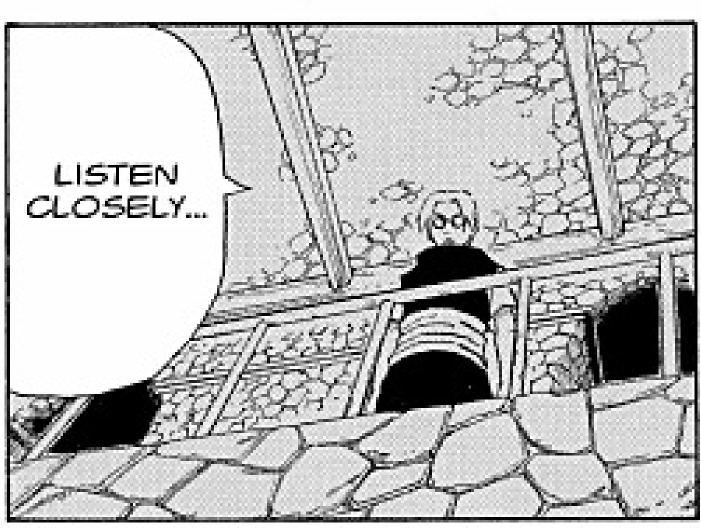

!

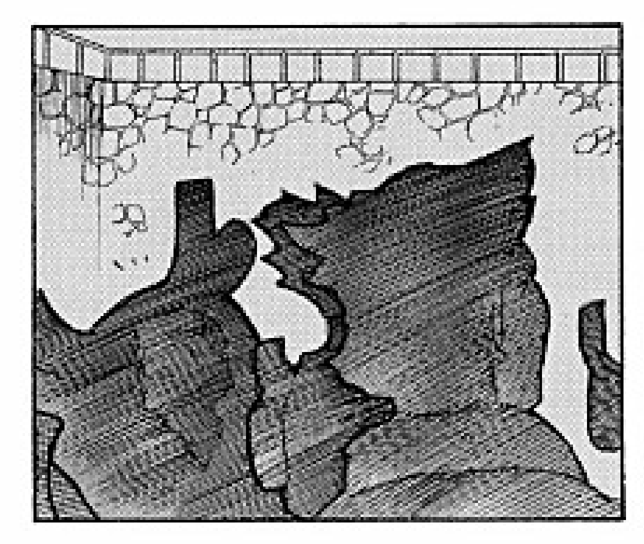
AAAUGH!!
...
I'VE ALREADY ARRANGED FOR THE SELECTING.
YOU CAN ENTRUST IT TO ME... AND...
I'M ALSO FOLLOWING UP ON SASUKE'S RETRIEVAL.
TAP


WE'VE GOT TO USE KIMIMARO..!


CURSE YOU, THIRD LORD...!
RIP


SSSSS
SSSS


LISTEN CLOSELY...



BOOF

CLACK

CLACK

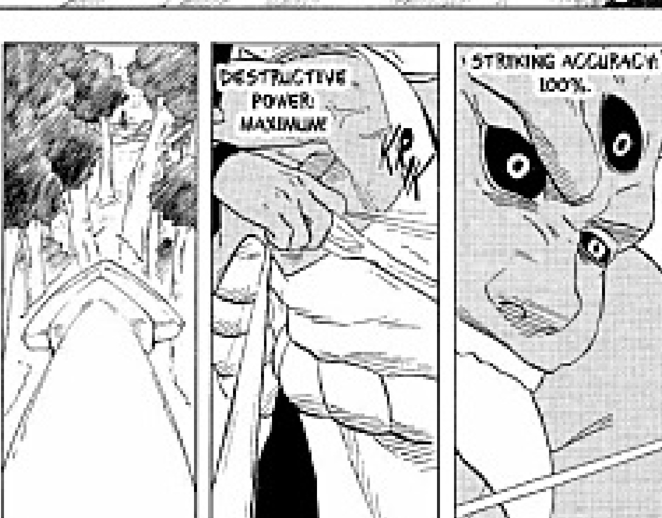
SSSS

SSSS









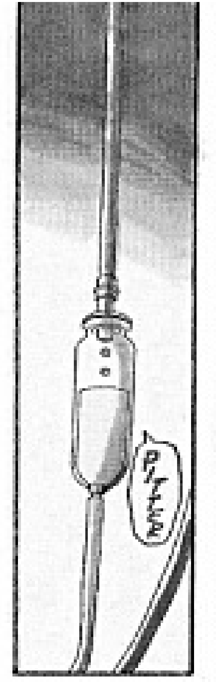
KISHIMOTO MASASHI'S REJECT MANGA SPECIAL

THE TWO-PAGE SPREAD ABOVE WAS WHAT WAS ACTUALLY PRINTED IN WEEKLY SHONEN JUMP, BUT...

...WHEN MY TWIN BROTHER SAW IT, HE PESTERED ME SO MUCH WITH "IT'S SO UNCOOL," "BORING," "DO-OVER" THAT EVEN THOUGH THERE WASN'T MUCH TIME, I DID REVISE AND REDRAW THE TWO PAGES FOR THIS GRAPHIC NOVEL EDITION.

SO, DEAR READERS, CAN YOU GUESS WHICH PAGES WERE REPLACED...?


Number 199: The Wish...!!




I SEE... I WASN'T CALLED UP TO SERVE, AGAIN...
DR. KABUTO... AM I...
YOU JUST FOCUS ON GETTING BETTER...


...YOU HAVE ALREADY FULFILLED YOUR PURPOSE...


IT'S NO LONGER THE SOUND FIVE, YOU KNOW...
SHOOK
...KIMIMARO.

Number 199: The Wish...!!



● THE JUTSU POPULARITY

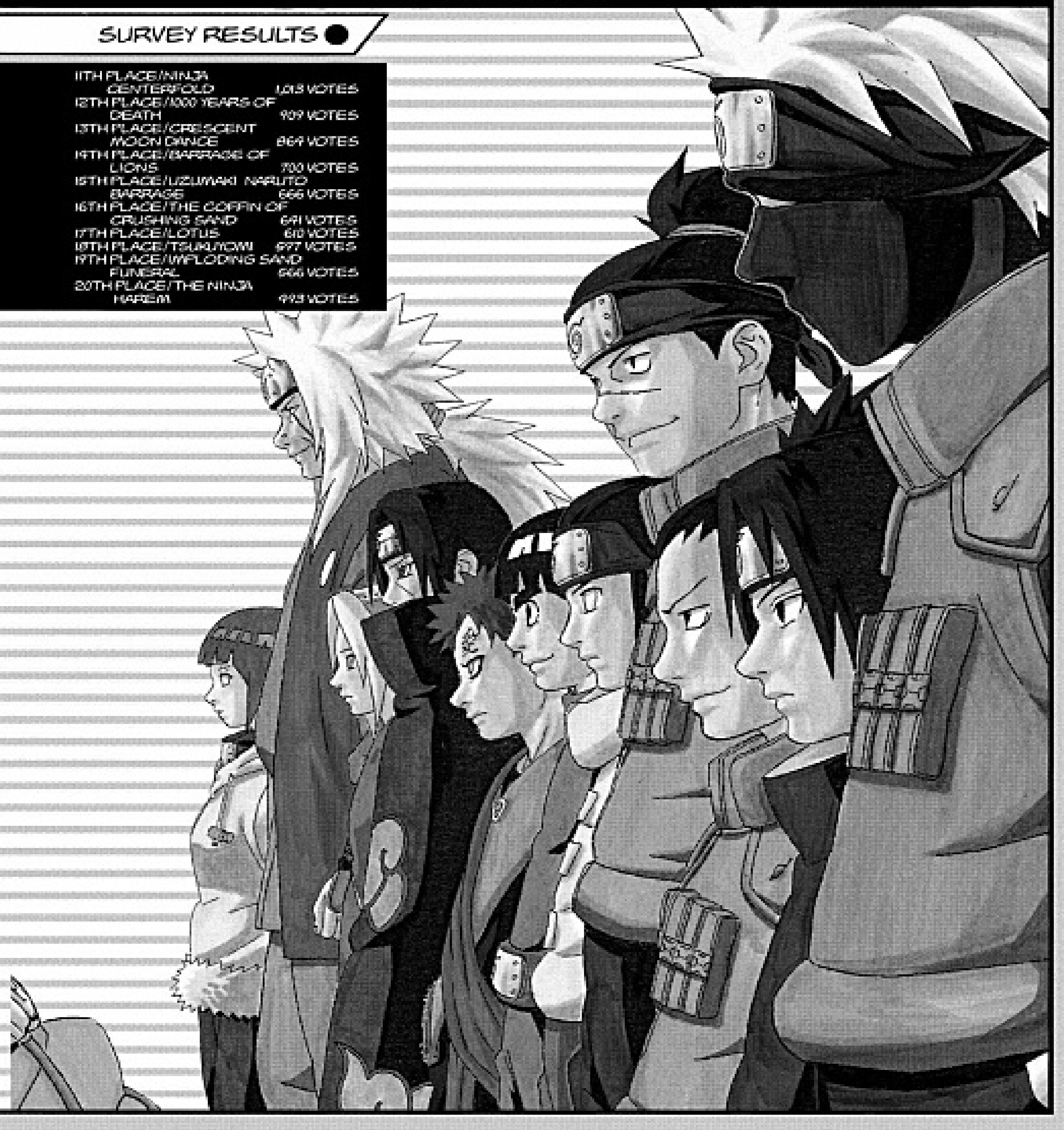
Place / Jutsu	Votes
1ST PLACE/RASENGAN	6,128 VOTES
2ND PLACE/LIGHTNING BLADE	4,395 VOTES
3RD PLACE/CHIDORI	3,216 VOTES
4TH PLACE/SHADOW POSSESSION	3,160 VOTES
5TH PLACE/SUMMONING	1,897 VOTES
6TH PLACE/BYAKUGAN	1,728 VOTES
7TH PLACE/SHARINGAN	1,639 VOTES
8TH PLACE/SHADOW DOPPELGANGER	1,416 VOTES
9TH PLACE/REVERSE LOTUS	1,400 VOTES
10TH PLACE/8 TRIGRAMS 64 PALMS	1,162 VOTES

● THE REST OF THE CHARACTER POPULARITY SURVEY RESULTS ●

Place / Character	Votes
2ND PLACE/HATAKE KAKASHI	6,560 VOTES
3RD PLACE/UCHIHA SASUKE	4,843 VOTES
4TH PLACE/NARA SHIKAMARU	4,700 VOTES
5TH PLACE/UMINO IRUKA	3,855 VOTES
6TH PLACE/HYUGA NEJI	3,222 VOTES
7TH PLACE/ROCK LEE	2,522 VOTES
8TH PLACE/GAARA	1,868 VOTES
9TH PLACE/UCHIHA ITACHI	1,619 VOTES
10TH PLACE/HARUNO SAKURA	1,348 VOTES
11TH PLACE/JIRAIYA	1,235 VOTES
12TH PLACE/HYUGA HINATA	1,182 VOTES

THE RESULTS OF THE FOURTH CHARACTER AND FIRST JUTSU POPULARITY SURVEY!!

CONDUCTED IN JAPAN.

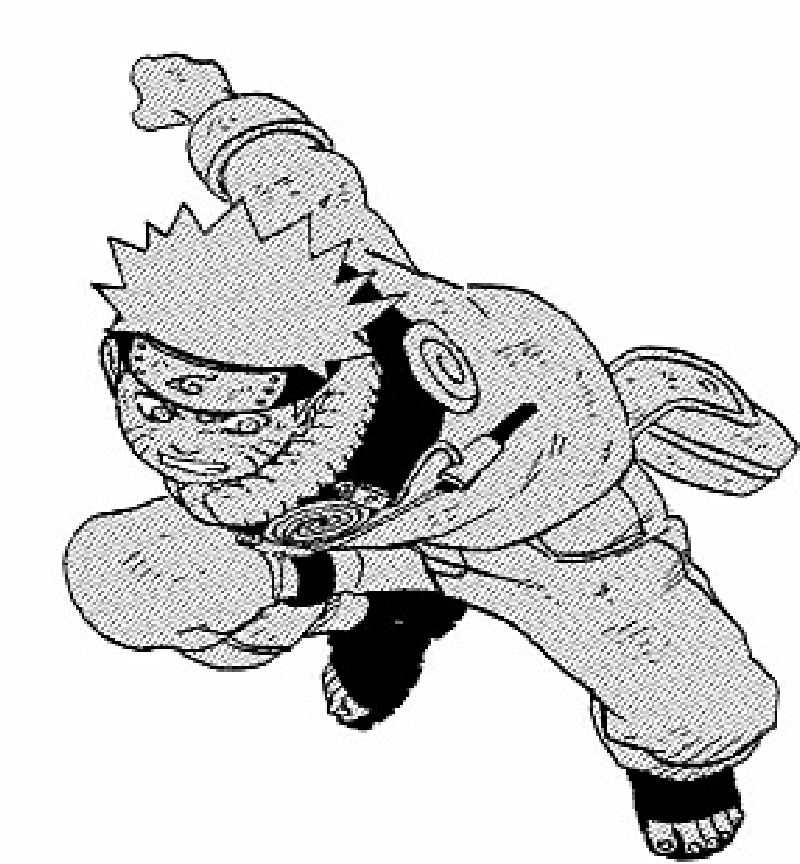


SURVEY RESULTS ●

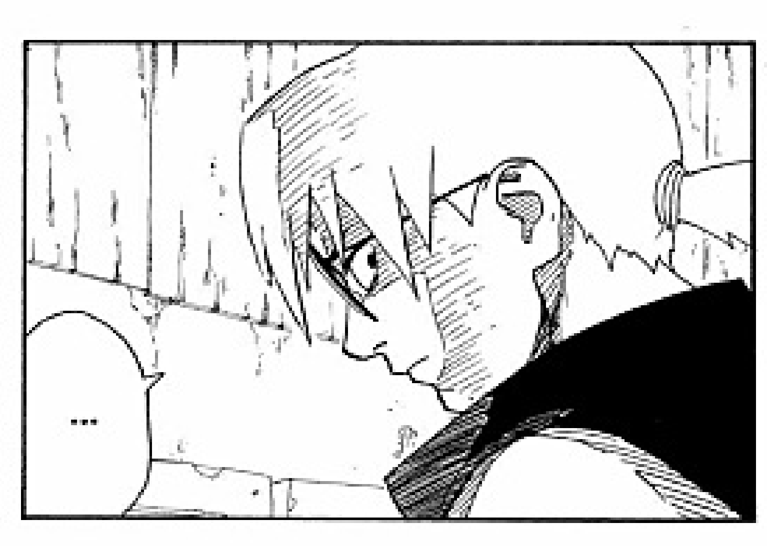
Place	Votes
11TH PLACE/NINJA CENTERFOLD	1,013 VOTES
12TH PLACE/1000 YEARS OF DEATH	909 VOTES
13TH PLACE/CRESCENT MOON DANCE	869 VOTES
14TH PLACE/BARRAGE OF LIONS	700 VOTES
15TH PLACE/UZUMAKI NARUTO BARRAGE	666 VOTES
16TH PLACE/THE COFFIN OF CRUSHING SAND	641 VOTES
17TH PLACE/LOTUS	610 VOTES
18TH PLACE/TSUKUYOMI	597 VOTES
19TH PLACE/IMPLODING SAND FUNERAL	566 VOTES
20TH PLACE/THE NINJA HAREM	493 VOTES

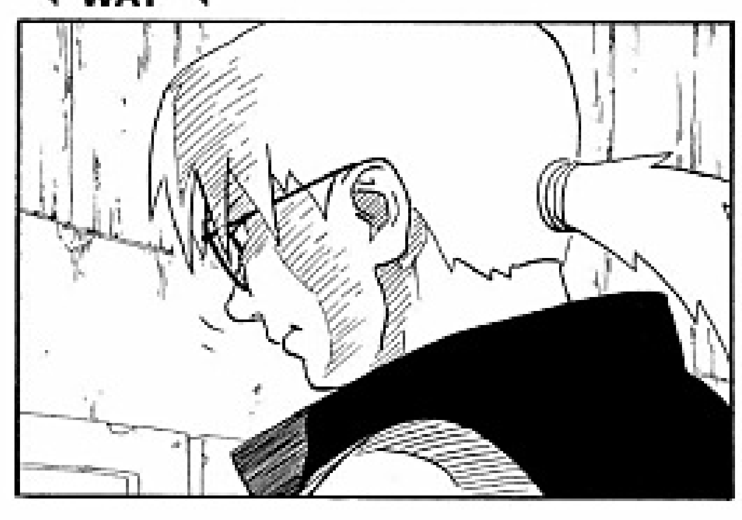
Place	Votes
13TH PLACE/TSUNADE	1,058 VOTES
14TH PLACE/HAKU	941 VOTES
15TH PLACE/TEMARI	930 VOTES
16TH PLACE/GEKKO HAYATE	876 VOTES
17TH PLACE/INUZUKA KIBA	599 VOTES
18TH PLACE/MIGHT GUY	567 VOTES
19TH PLACE/SHIRANUI GENMA	541 VOTES
20TH PLACE/FOURTH HOKAGE	529 VOTES
21ST PLACE/AKIMICHI CHOJI	399 VOTES
22ND PLACE/OROCHIMARU	345 VOTES
23RD PLACE/YAMANAKA INO	286 VOTES
24TH PLACE/AKAMARU	271 VOTES
25TH PLACE/ABURAME SHINO	253 VOTES
26TH PLACE/SARUTOBI ASUMA YAKUSHI KABUTO	237 VOTES
28TH PLACE/MOMOCHI ZABUZA	207 VOTES
29TH PLACE/TENTEN	135 VOTES
30TH PLACE/MITARASHI ANKO	120 VOTES


NARUTO
-ナルト-





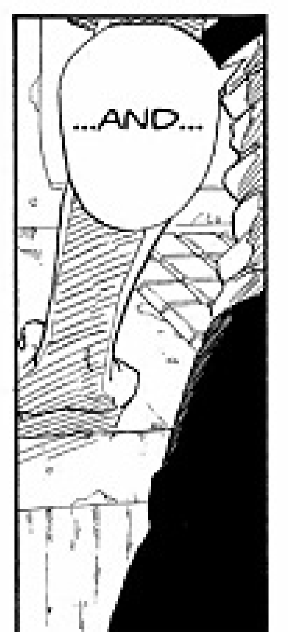


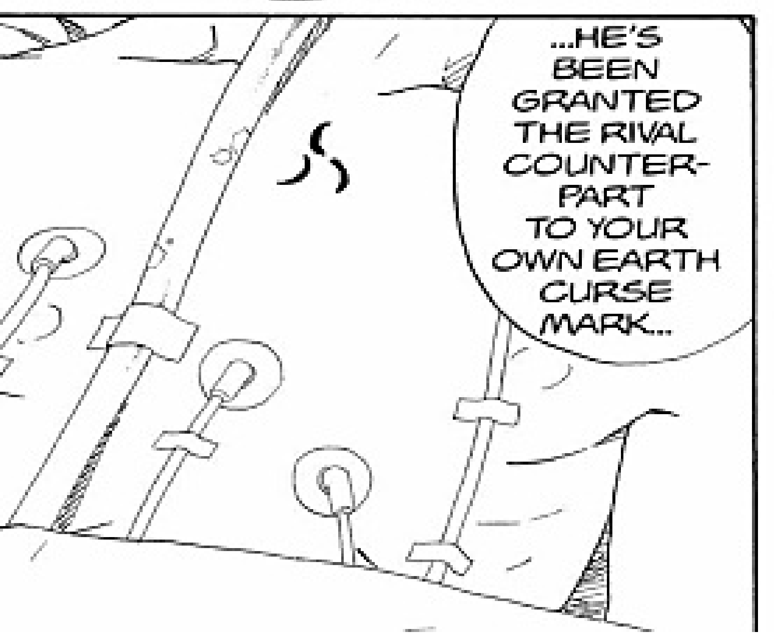


I... CAN STILL...

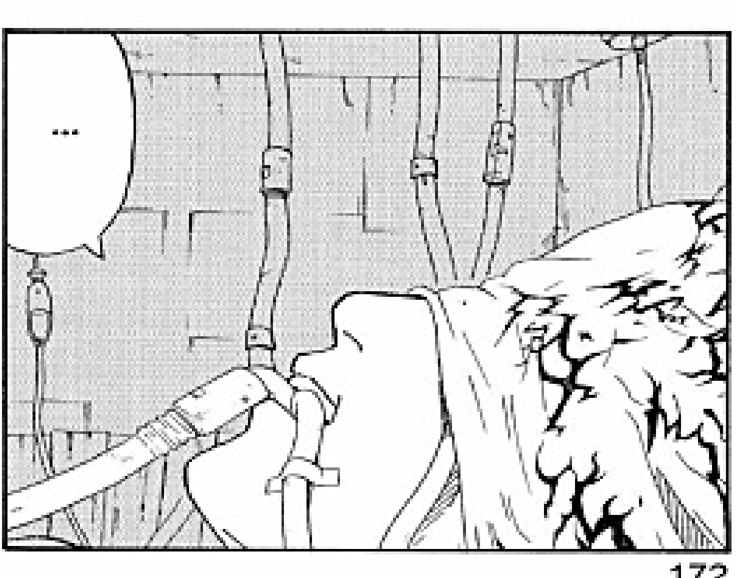
YOUR SUCCESSOR HAS BEEN FOUND...





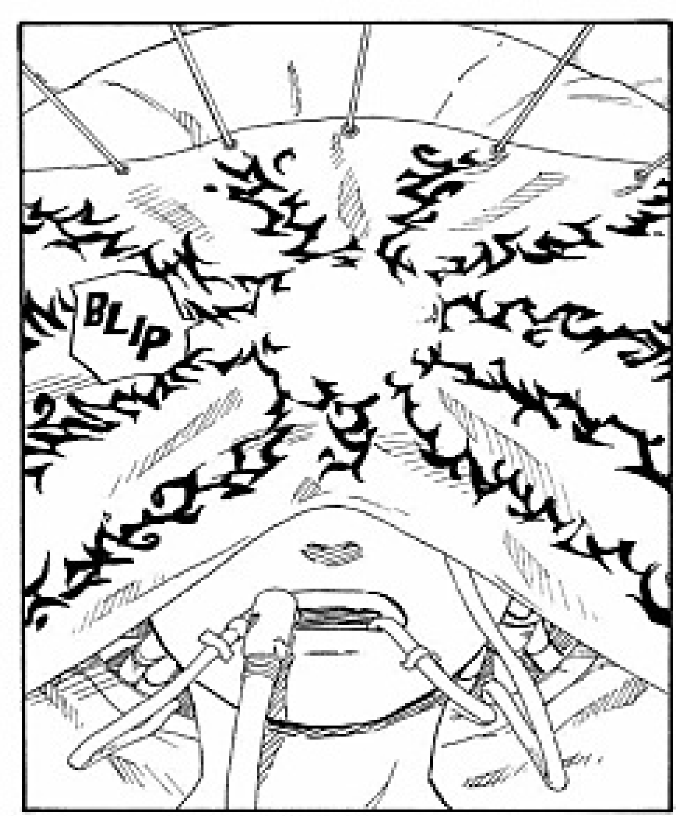


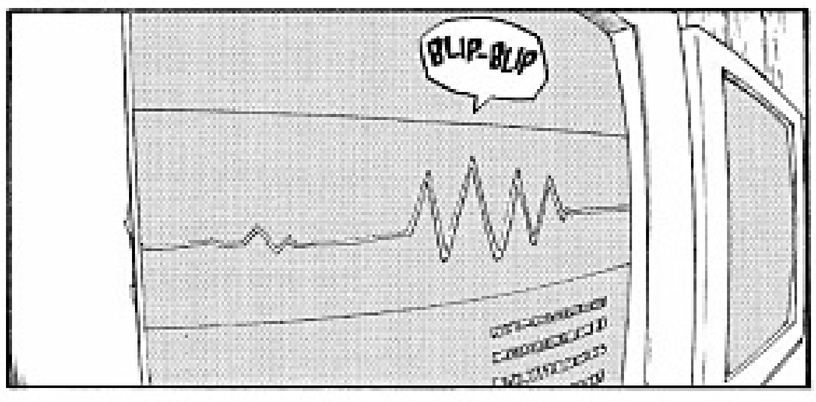
...THE HEAVEN CURSE MARK.
HE EVEN CARRIES A KEKKEI GENKAI JUST LIKE YOU.

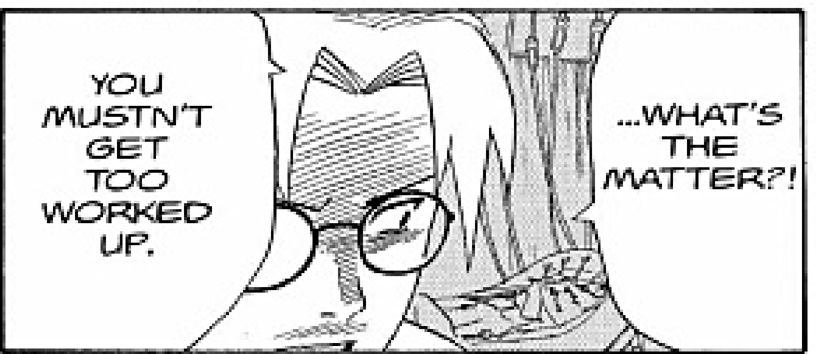

...


...
HEH... WONDER WHICH OF YOU IS STRONGER?

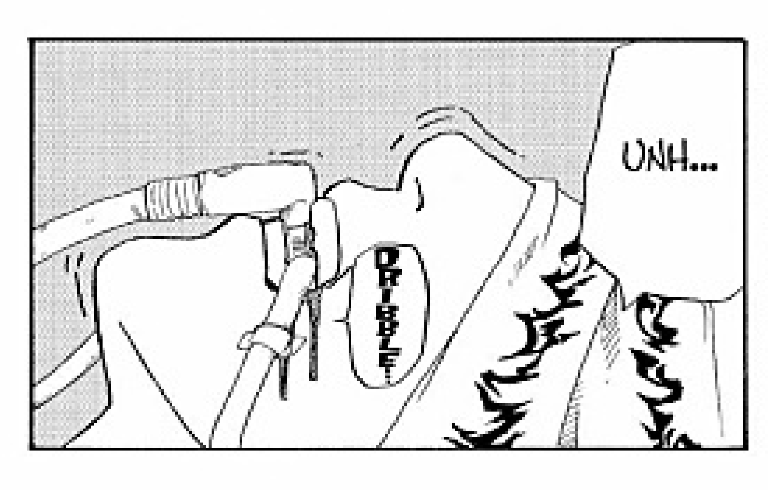

READ THIS WAY


BLIP


BLIP-BLIP

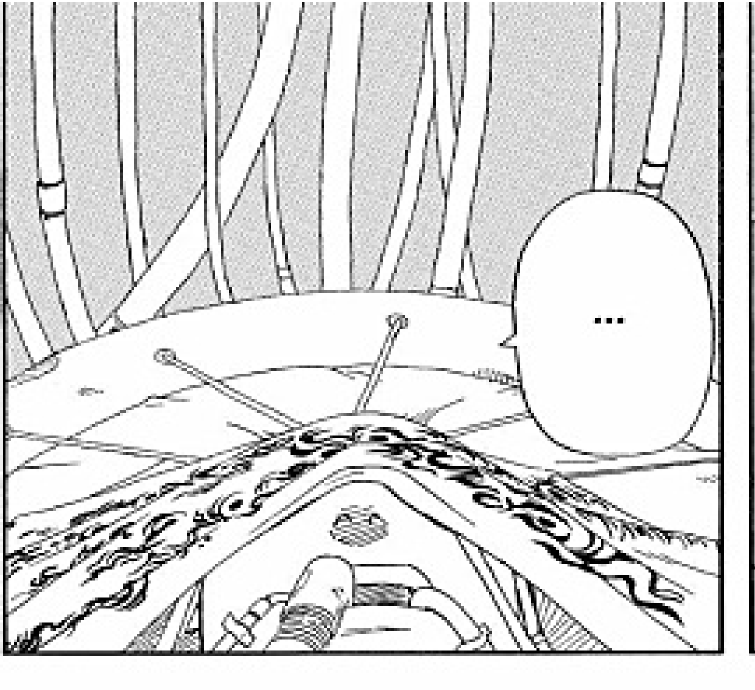

...WHAT'S THE MATTER?!
YOU MUSTN'T GET TOO WORKED UP.

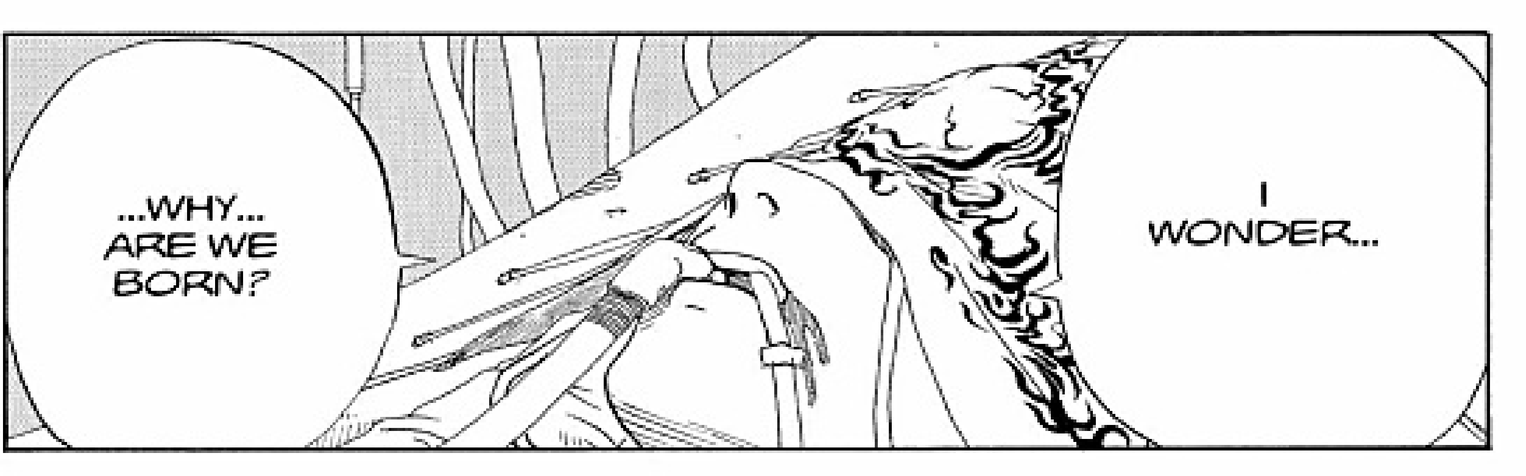

URGH...
GAH


UNH...
DRIBBLE


...
HOW MUCH LONGER DO I HAVE...?


...DON'T SPEAK...


...

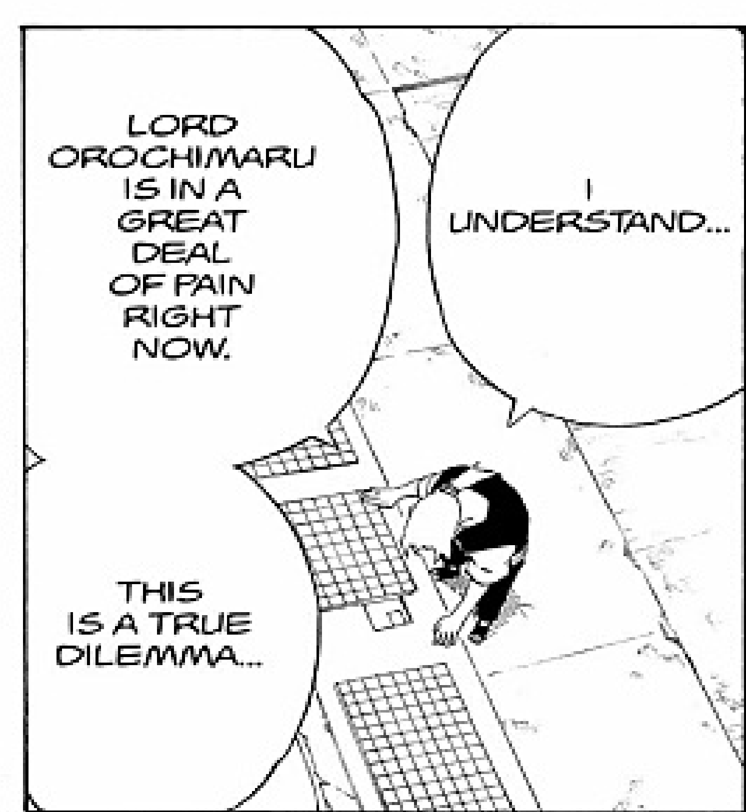

I WONDER...
...WHY... ARE WE BORN?


DO WE ALL CARRY SOME IMPORTANT MISSION WITHIN US...

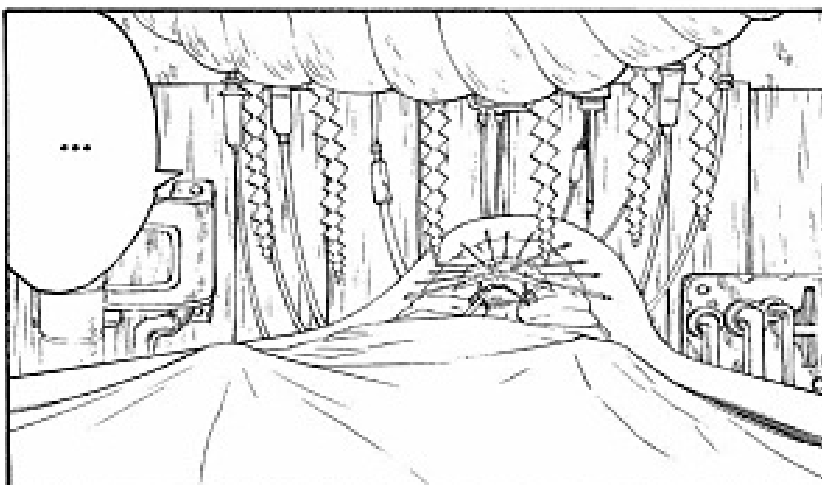

...!

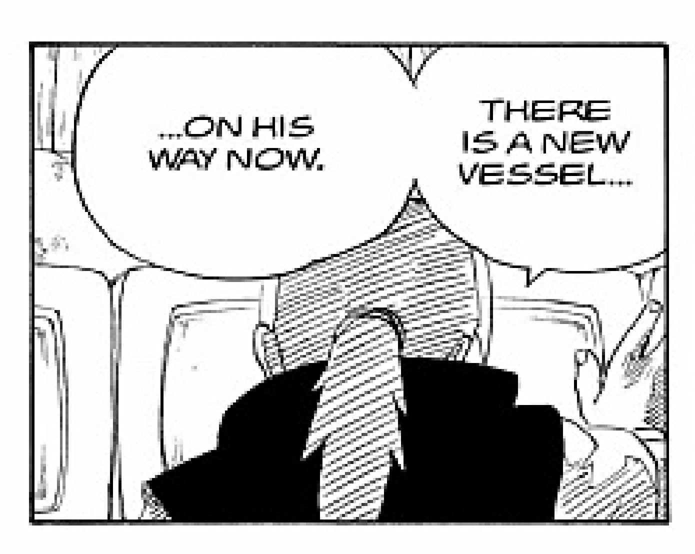

...TO DISCOVER THAT MISSION...
...IS THE ULTIMATE LIBERTY THE GODS GRANT US HUMANS...


READ THIS WAY


I UNDERSTAND...
LORD OROCHIMARU IS IN A GREAT DEAL OF PAIN RIGHT NOW.
THIS IS A TRUE DILEMMA...

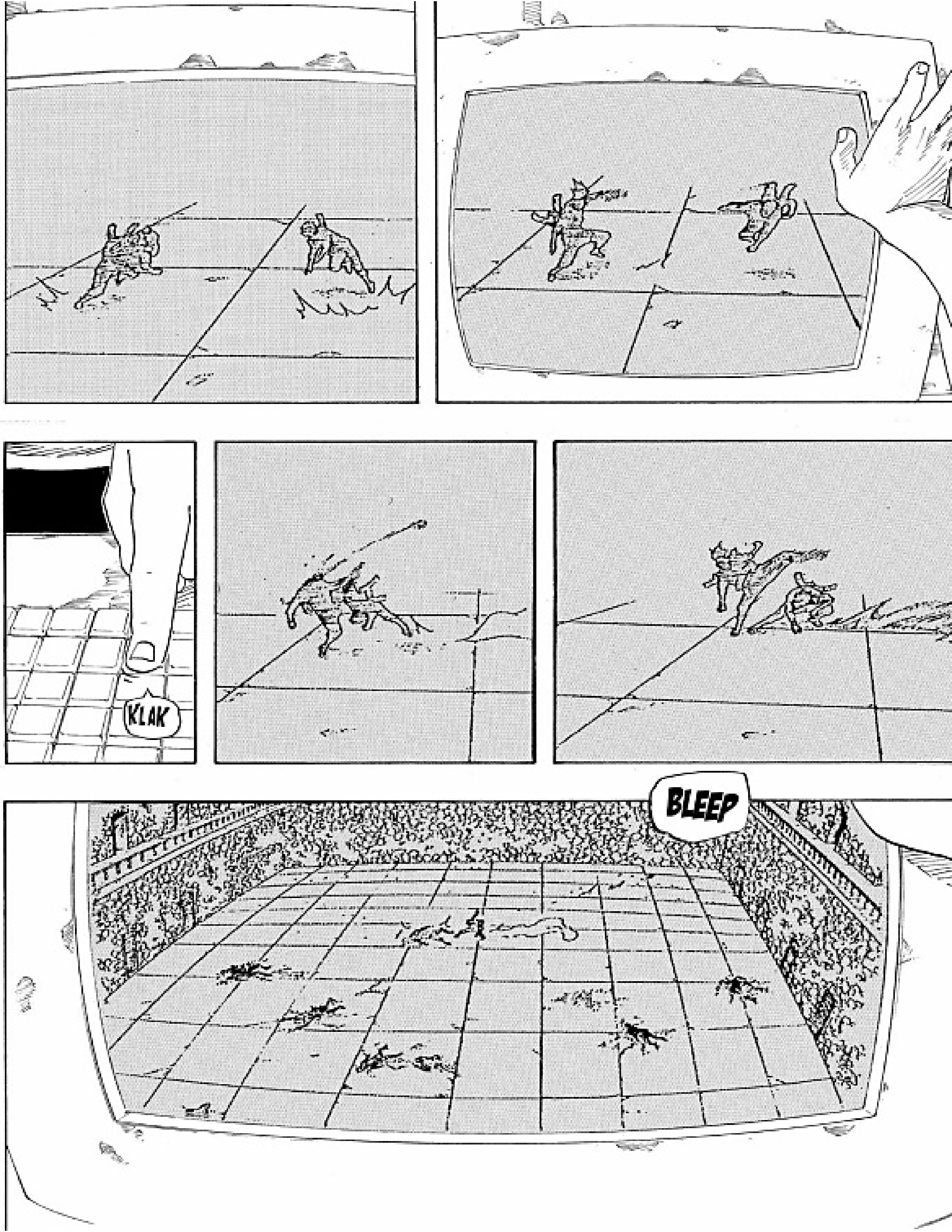

BUT I'M GOING TO BE BRUTALLY CLEAR...
...WHAT CAN YOU DO IN YOUR CURRENT STATE?
YOUR VALUE AS A VESSEL IS LONG LOST...


...

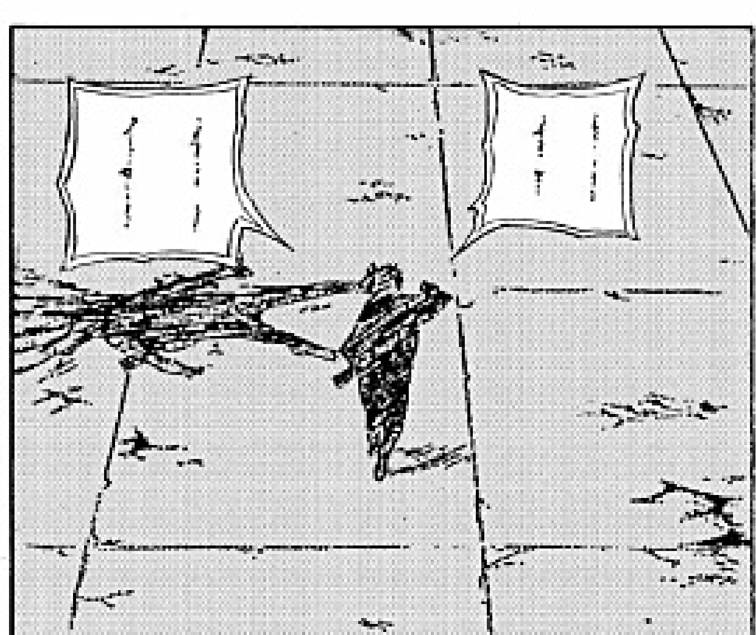

THERE IS A NEW VESSEL...
...ON HIS WAY NOW.

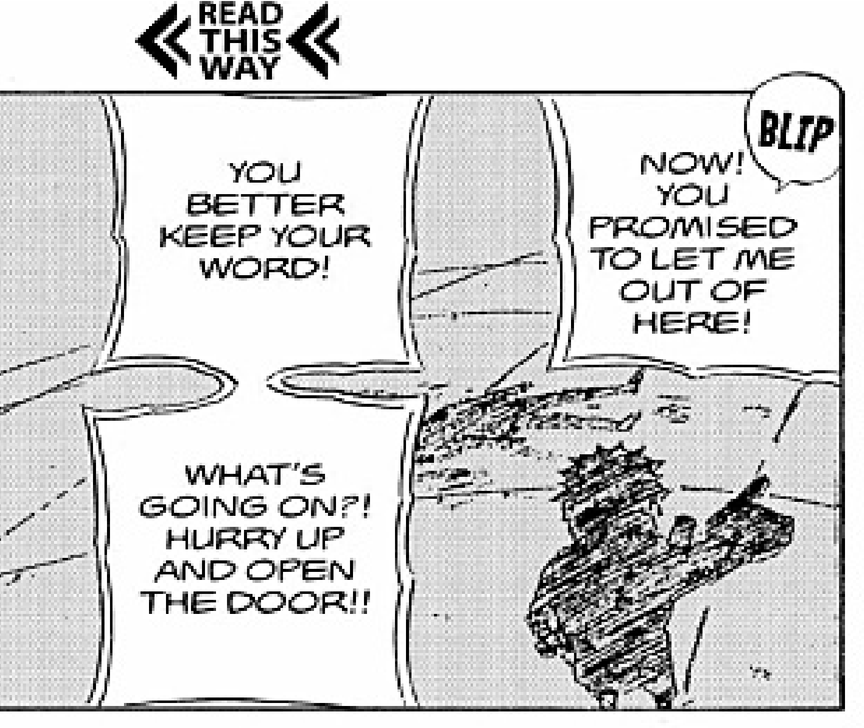



ALTHOUGH ...
...HE'S TOO LATE AT THIS POINT AS WELL.

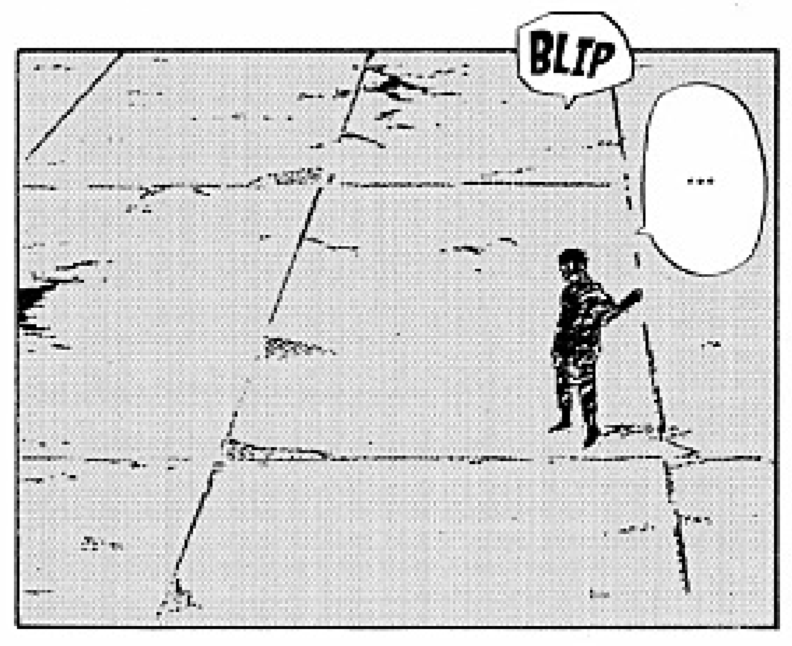

KLAK
BLEEP

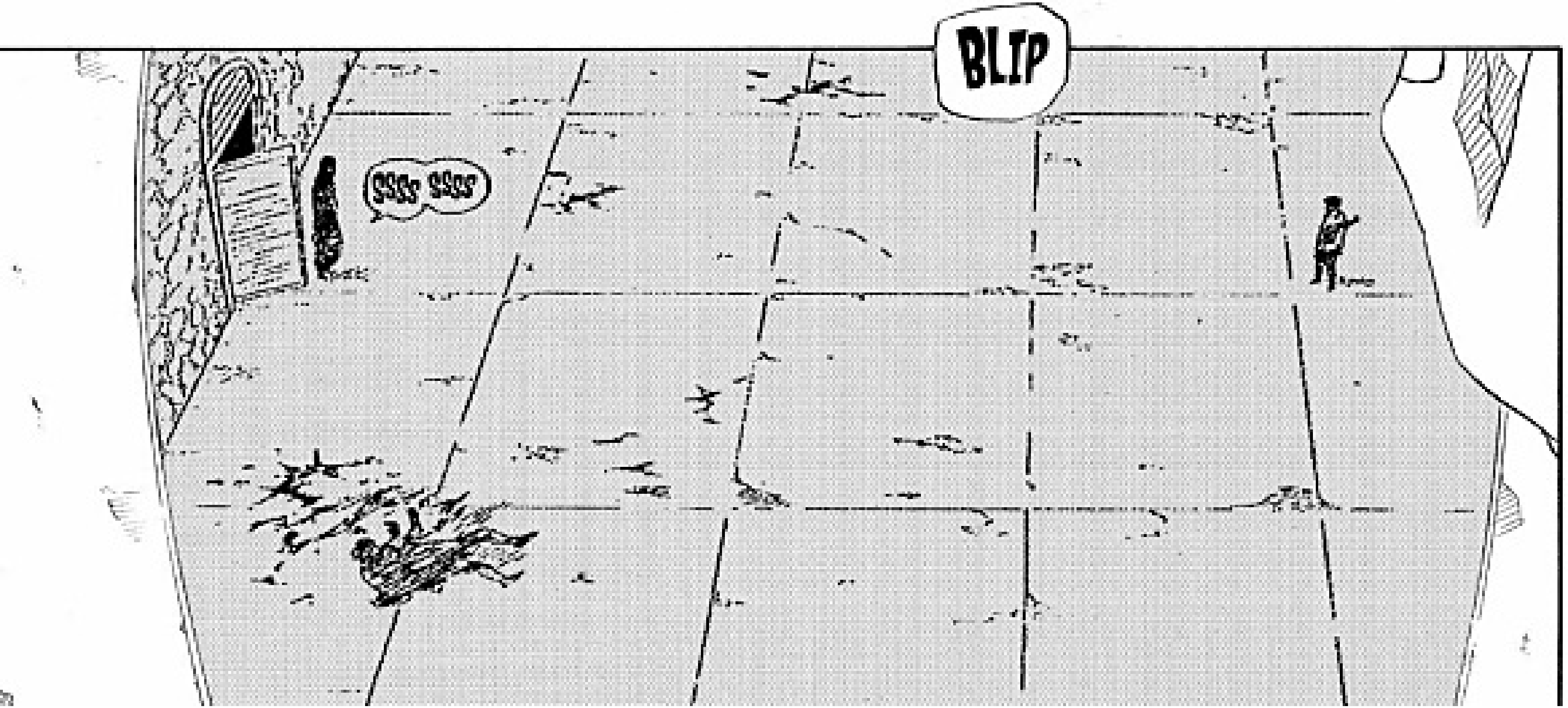
READ THIS WAY

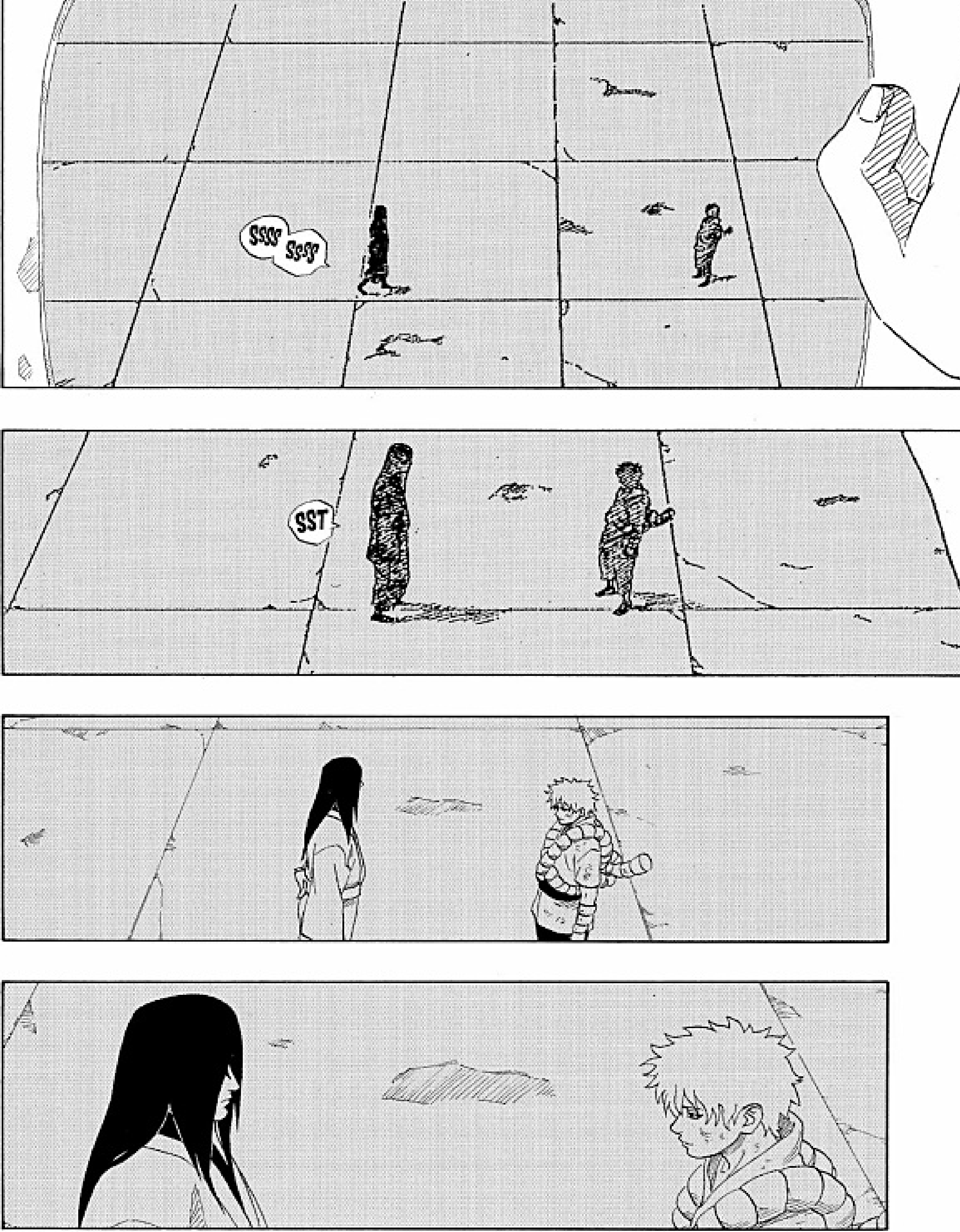











SSSS
SSSS
SST

WHAT?!
THERE WAS ONE MORE OF YOU...?
FINE, LET'S...
?!!

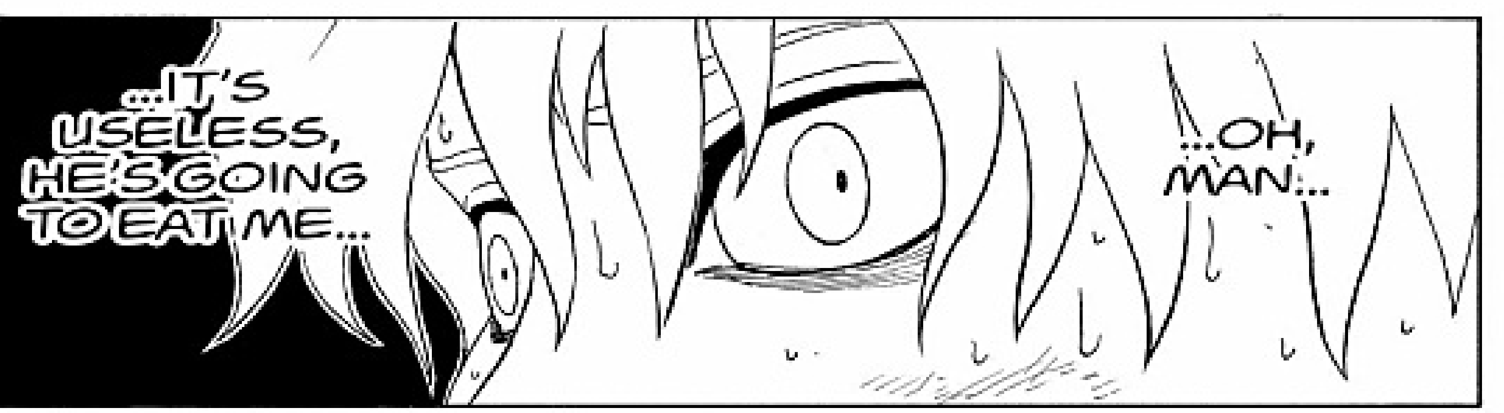





VW



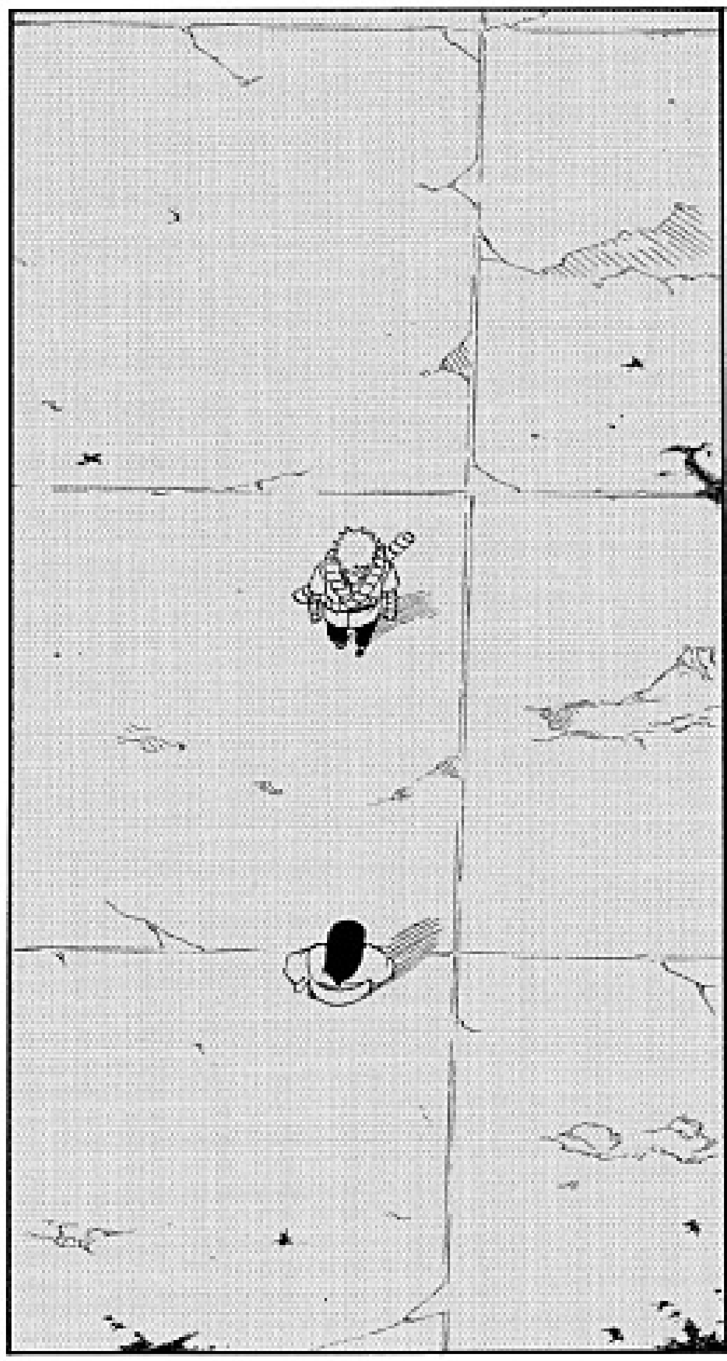
SLITHER...

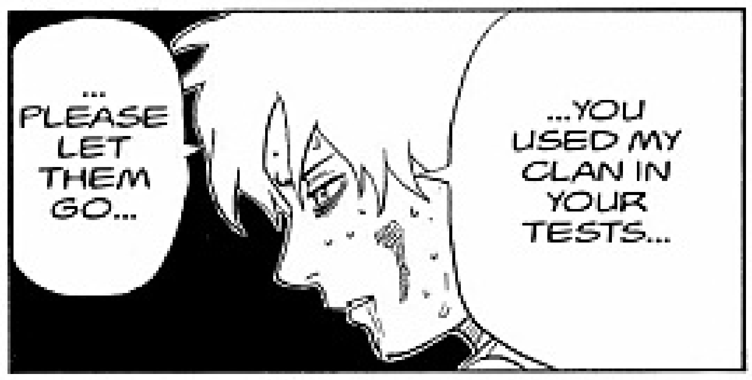

...IT'S USELESS, HE'S GOING TO EAT ME...
...OH, MAN...


WOOSH
!


HO HO... DON'T WORRY, I WILL LET YOU OUT OF HERE... AND I'LL GRANT YOU ONE WISH AS WELL.

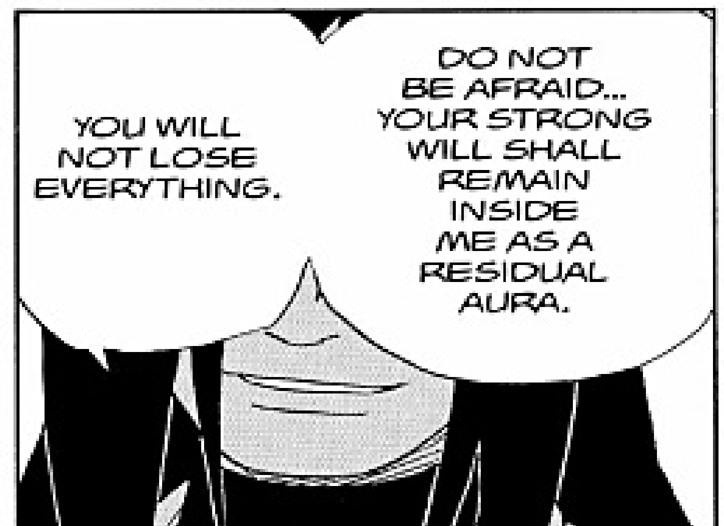

READ THIS WAY




...YOU USED MY CLAN IN YOUR TESTS...
... PLEASE LET THEM GO...

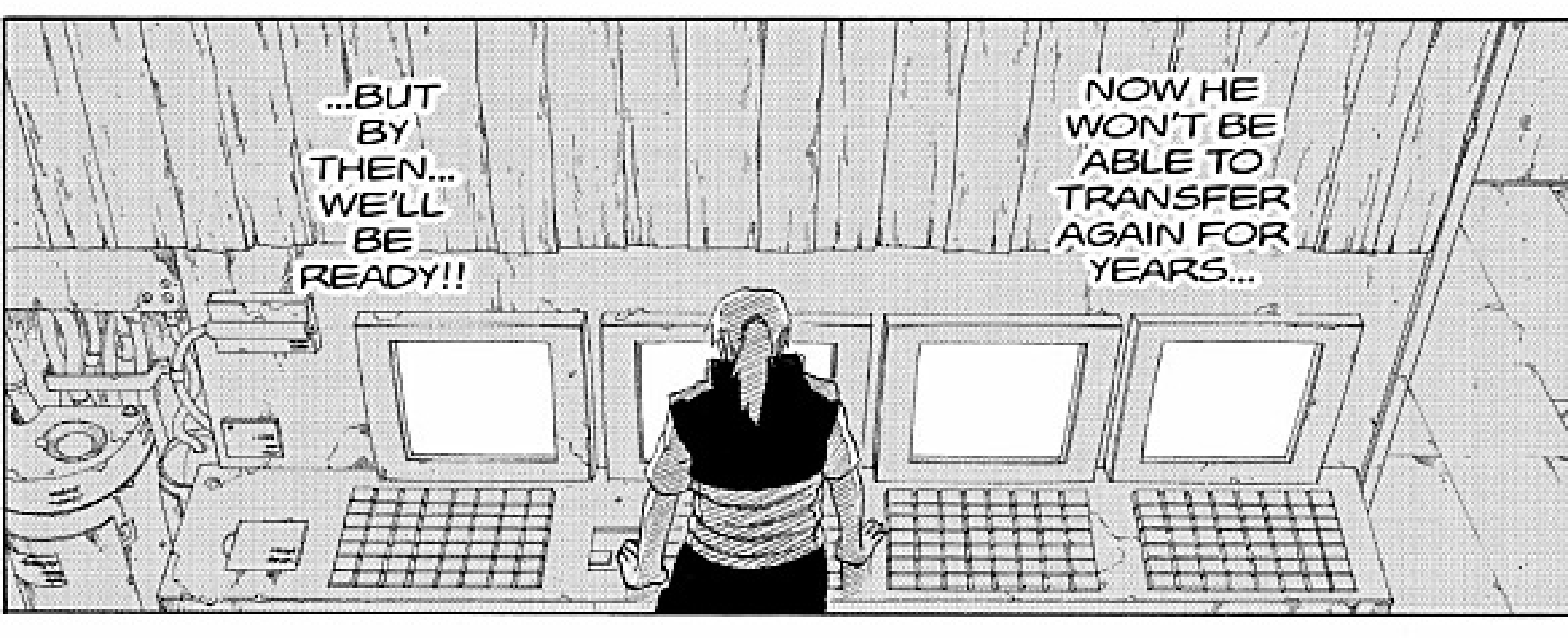

...
VERY WELL... 'TIS A SIMPLE REQUEST...


...

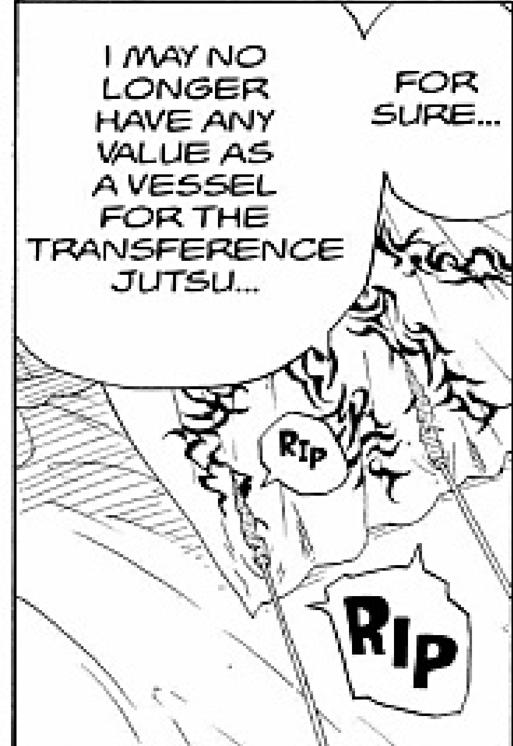

DO NOT BE AFRAID... YOUR STRONG WILL SHALL REMAIN INSIDE ME AS A RESIDUAL AURA.
YOU WILL NOT LOSE EVERYTHING.


WELL THEN... I THANK YOU FOR YOUR BODY.


AAAAAAAHKH AGH!!


NOW HE WON'T BE ABLE TO TRANSFER AGAIN FOR YEARS...
...BUT BY THEN... WE'LL BE READY!!


...


FOR SURE...
I MAY NO LONGER HAVE ANY VALUE AS A VESSEL FOR THE TRANSFERENCE JUTSU...
RIP
RIP


...AND IT IS DIFFICULT FOR ME TO IDENTIFY MY TRUE PURPOSE WHEN I'VE LOST EVERYTHING...
SNAP





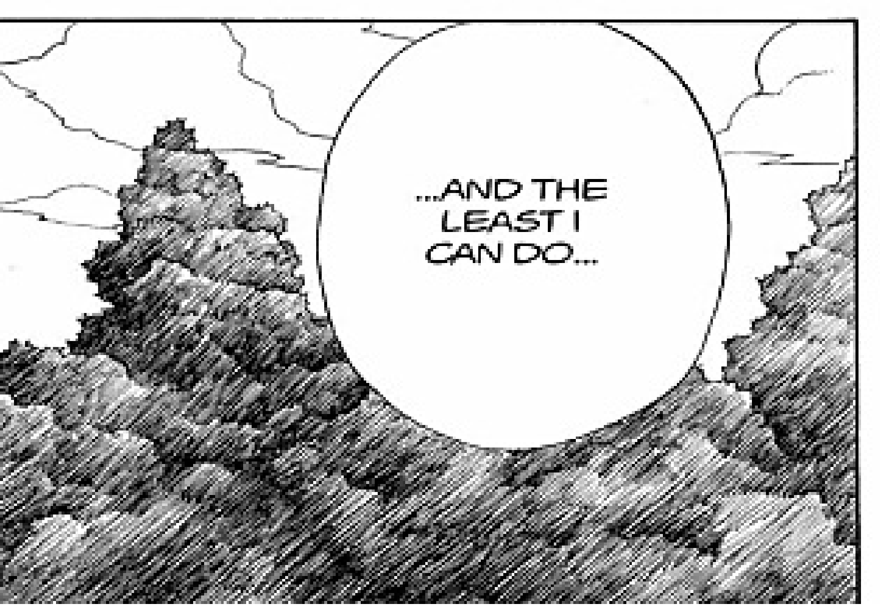


EVEN IF IT IS NOT TO BE ME... I SHALL HELP TAKE IN THIS NEW VESSEL...

FLOP

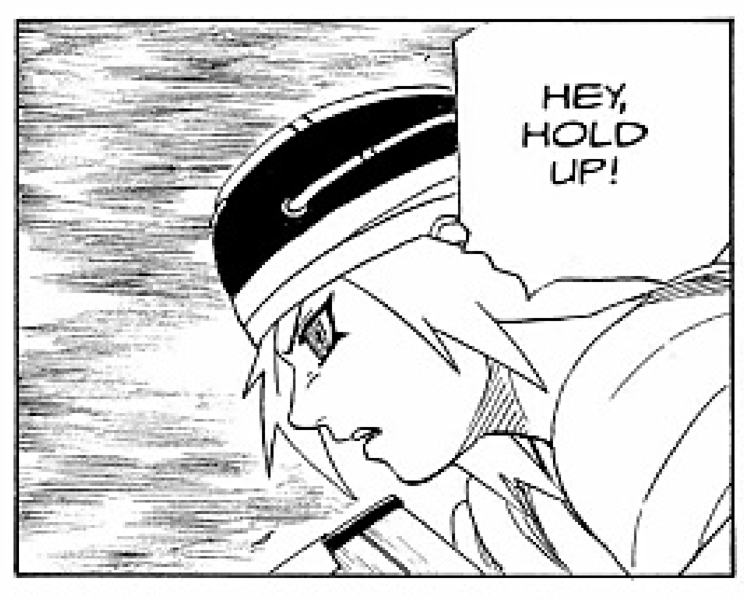
...EVEN AT THE COST OF MY LIFE...

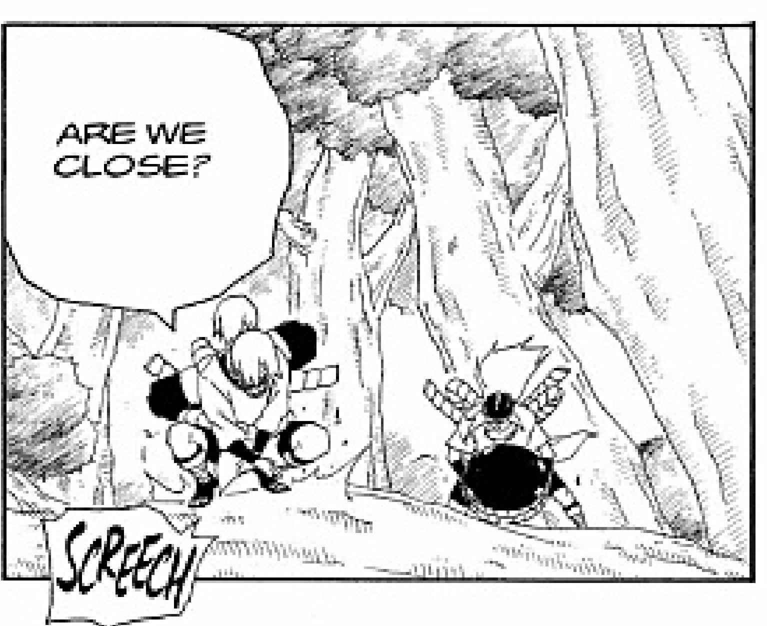


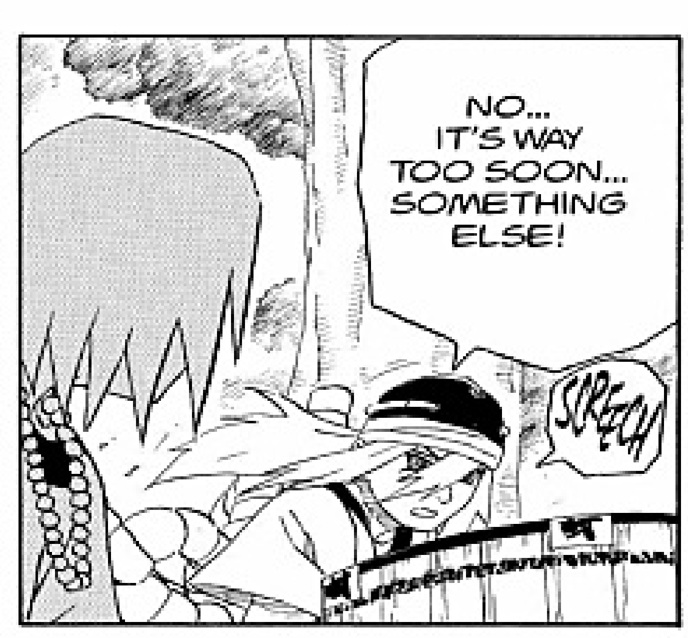


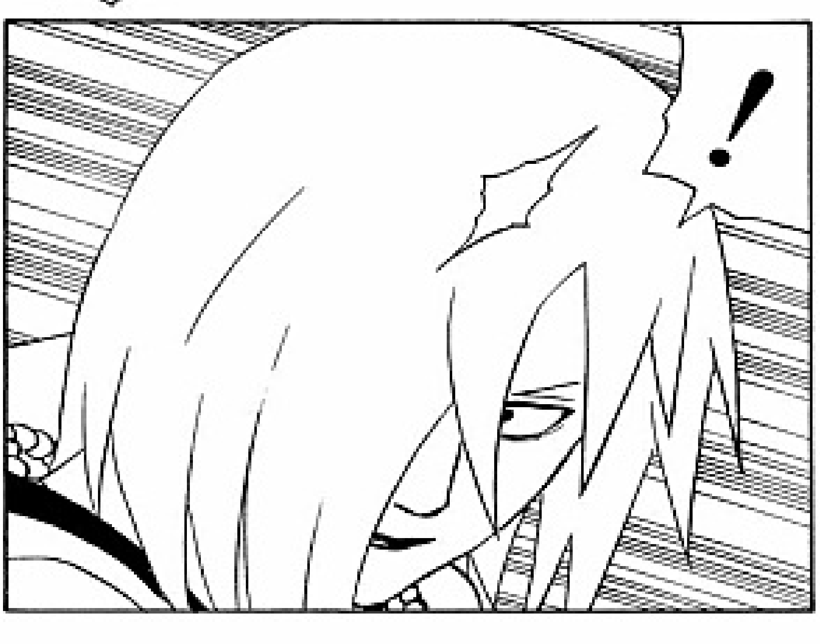

SHOOM


!
KLUNK


HEY, HOLD UP!


ARE WE CLOSE?
SCREECH


NO... IT'S WAY TOO SOON... SOMETHING ELSE!
SCREECH


!


WHAT HAVE THOSE FOOLS JIROBO AND KIDOMARU BEEN DOING?!
...
CAUGHT UP TO YA!
FINE! HAVE IT YOUR WAY!
I'LL KILL YA ALL IN NO TIME!!
FWOOSH
TO BE CONTINUED IN NARUTO VOLUME 23!